Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Forthcoming Events.

CENTRAL MAINE POULTRY ASSOCIATION: Second Annual Exhibition at Fairfield, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Dec. 12th-14th. F. E. McFadden, Secretary, Fairfield.

AND ROSCOGGIN POULTRY ASSOCIATION: at Lewiston, Jan. 24th-26th, 1878.

An Agricultural Excursion.—II.

A Morning Drive.

If our readers have not forgotten where we parted company, a few weeks since, when we undertook the task of telling something about a little excursion northward along our beautiful Kennebec and what was seen and learned on the route, we will go back now, look over our hastily penciled notes and see if we can gather anything for their interest or profit. But of one thing we are certain; if they have forgotten we have not, nor shall we soon forget that glorious autumn morning, with the sparkling daylight streaming into that quaint old east chamber, with its circular ceiling and roomy closets on either side under the roof; as bright as the brightest morning its builder ever witnessed half a century ago, and as bright as any his declining years have noted in his western home—where we trust he has seen many—for he is yet hale and vigorous at eighty-two, and writes as neat and fine a hand as in youth. His active mind must often, we suspect, revert to the scenes of his old Kennebec home, where his early years were spent; and it will be a satisfaction for him to know that those river farms are as beautiful, as well kept, as productive, and giving happy homes to as good a class of citizens as fifty years ago. May it be so when fifty more years are gone!

An early breakfast awaited us that morning, and as soon as it was over—too soon indeed, for politeness, for which we beg pardon—our team was ready and we were on the road to the "North," as the village of North Vassalboro' is locally called; first driving half a mile or so up the river road, and then by a turn to the right, taking a cross-road leading over a high swell of land through a corner of the tour of Winslow, to the road leading direct from North Vassalboro' to the village of Waterville. Just near the junction of these two roads, partly down a slight descent of land, with the brisk village of North Vassalboro' within pleasant sight, half a mile or so, is the

Farm of Mr. Ira E. Getchell,

the President of the Board of Agriculture, and before whose elegant new stable we drew rein. Unfortunately, Mr. Getchell was not at home, having been called away in consequence of the decease of relatives; but under the guidance of an intelligent workman we made a close inspection of the buildings, took greater liberties, probably, and asked more questions than we should have done, had the proprietor been present.

The farm of Mr. Getchell contains about two hundred acres, eighty of which is in mowing and tillage, the fields lying pleasantly to the southward towards North Vassalboro', all well fenced, and all so smooth we should think, a mower could be run over every inch of it. It is a strong clay loam, and the luxuriant aftermath gave indications of its being in what farmers term "good heart." Indeed, the yield of hay the present season, though fully one-fourth below an average crop, we were informed was sixty tons; the other crops of the year being two hundred bushels of grain, two hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes, and fifteen bushels of beans. Four acres were in corn, two in wheat, and three in potatoes—the last named crop being two thirds of an average yield. Mr. Getchell's specialty in farming may be termed sheep husbandry, as he has a flock of over one hundred grade Cotswolds, and gives but little attention to other stock, though having four or five cows, three horses, and a dozen Essex swine—the latter we should judge, while being provided with dry and nice sleeping and eating apartments, kept mainly for the purpose of manipulating the compost heap. Mr. Getchell has one of the

Finest Sets of Farm Buildings

in Kennebec county, and perhaps there are few in Maine that for thoroughness and convenience equal them. The barn, stable and sheds are new, having been built last year in the most thorough manner. The barn is 70x45 feet, underdrained and underpinned with a split stone wall eighteen inches thick; posts twenty-four feet high, clapboarded and painted in the best shape. It is provided with two floors, the hay and grain being hauled in at the west end, eight feet above the sills or lower floor, the north side comprising three bays. The first one, at the west end of the barn runs down to the lower floor, (or cattle and sheep floor) has a capacity of about twenty tons and is filled with herdgrass hay, which is sold off in early winter, and the floor space it occupies is used as an addition to the sheep quarters. The middle bay is the same size, descends to the second floor, and is filled with clover hay, to be fed to sheep, a shoot being provided to carry the hay from the mow to the feeding floor. The third bay does not go below the first floor, but has a capacity of twenty-six tons. This is filled with hay intended for cows and young stock, provided with a shoot, which conveys the hay to the feeding floor below, which at this end of the barn runs endwise of the barn the tie-up for cattle, being across the extreme east end. On the south side of this main floor is a scaffold twelve feet deep, running the entire length of the barn, suitably divided into apartments and used for the storage of grain, straw, corn fodder, bean haulm, etc., which may be fed directly to the cow and sheep yards from doors opening on the south side of the barn. Descending to the

Basement Story

by means of a pair of roomy stairs mid-way the upper floor, we are landed in the floor 12 feet wide running across the barn 45 feet in length, to the east of which 14 feet is occupied with the cattle tie-up, pens for calves, breeding animals, etc. On the south side of the barn, west of this floor and under the grain scaffold above mentioned, is a sheep pen 44x12 feet, which opens into an open shed some forty feet long, extending from the west end of the barn southward and forming a protection from the cold winds. Between the sheep pen and the bays is a narrow feed floor and feeding rack for sheep; the quarters being light, well ventilated and warm—indeed, we should judge it to be nearly frost proof. The manure from the cattle goes under a shed at the east end of the barn, which is open on the side, but provided with a wide roof which completely shelters all the deposits.

Between the Barn and Stable,

extending to the eastward, is an open shed, fully forty feet in length, which connects the barn with the stable. The latter building is not far from forty feet square, with a cellar under the whole, the main floor being for horses, carriages, harnesses, etc., and a hay loft above capable of storing ten or fifteen tons of hay. This is well lighted and warm, and the cellar without doubt frost proof. In the barn and stable yard, are three wells of excellent water. These buildings were all planned and built by Mr. Getchell—who is besides being a most excellent farmer, so much of a mechanic as to build his own pleasure and farm carriages, make his own harnesses, and perhaps his own musical instruments, (as he is a sort of universal genius)—and we have been thus particular in describing them, because we deem them a truly model set of buildings, and we hope to have made our description of them so plain that readers can readily comprehend the arrangement of the several apartments. The house was probably built fifty years ago, but has been rebuilt in recent years; and although we did not have the pleasure of accepting Mr. Getchell's kind invitation to sit down to his hospitable table, we did catch a glimpse of a splendid, old-time open fire place, the very picture of comfort, as we went to the door to make inquiries. Its light will flash out pleasantly these on-coming winter evenings, as the large shed full of dry wood gave ample assurance. Driving out of the yard you are at the

Village of North Vassalboro'

before one has time to tell a good story—in fact just the right distance to store, post office, school and church. Our chief point of interest here were the grounds and

Excelsior Conservatories

of Messrs. J. A. Varney & Son, who, within the past few years have built up at this place a large nursery business and are growing some of the best verbenas and bedding plants put upon the market. Again we were disappointed in not finding either of the gentlemen at home, but we were given a welcome to the grounds and told to go just where we pleased. This liberty we were glad to avail ourselves of, but sadly missed the guidance of some person familiar with what was being done, as there were a hundred questions we wanted to ask. But we must congratulate the Messrs. Varney on being absent, for they escaped one of the most severe "pumpings" they ever experienced;—for if two men in search of information from those who have it to give, can ask more questions in a given time than Mr. Atherton of Hallowell and the other gentleman on this excursion, who is the recording member thereof, we should like to make their acquaintance on some winter evening and enjoy a little conversation.

The grounds of the Messrs. Varney contain six, possibly eight acres largely occupied with nursery stock, apples, pears, currants, grapes, etc. At the west of the house is the flower garden, quite attractively laid out with the usual variety of bedding and ornamental leaved plants, grown in the houses. The conservatories are three in number, one of which—the original house—is a lean-to structure, built against the west side of the house, the flue of which passes through the cellar and enters one of the chimneys of the house—the house having a basement story, or half cellar on the west side. This is well filled with foreign grapes, and at the time of our visit the large and beautiful clusters were suspended from the vines in tempting lusciousness. Adjoining this house to the south is a span roof house, the roof running east and west; then still another lean-to house facing the south, and in which was a fine collection of ferns, cactuses, etc. In these houses the Messrs. Varney grew their choice verbenas—of which they exhibited at the State display at Waterville more than sixty varieties—and other bedding plants, for which they find a sale all over the State, especially on the line of the Maine Central. They also have a large collection of out-door grapes, and when we were there the vines of Delawares, Concords, Adirondacs and several of Rogers' seedlings were heavily loaded with ripe fruit, and the leaves—September 27th—untouched by frost. The entrance to the residence and conservatories is through a pretty rustic gateway and yard, covered with woodbine and clematis. The drive to

Waterville Village

is over a good road, past pleasant homes, and without doubt through the best portion of the town of Winslow. The yard of Col. Isaac W. Britton was full of the bloom of autumn flowers and bright with many-colored foliage, and we halted for a moment to look at it. Of his farm, one of the best in Winslow, we gave an account in a former volume, and there is little to be added, other than that Col. B. still maintains the high culture and good management of his acres, and has in recent years somewhat changed his system of farming, or rather adopted his system to the new conditions about him. Located mid-way between the villages of Waterville and North Vassalboro', which are good markets, he is favorably situated to take advantage of the same; and has consequently been quite largely engaged in growing "garden truck" for the market. He sends a team to these villages every morning during the summer season, and judging from the plan he has of enlarging his operations another year, is finding it a profitable business.

The Cemetery at Fort Hill.

We reached the village of Winslow at mid-day, and went to the top of Fort Hill, before entering Waterville. The sun was as warm as in July, and the view from the old cemetery was one of great beauty, as well as of singular interest. To the left was the Sebasticook, to the right the Kennebec and the enterprising village of Waterville. Before us was the little bay, formed by the union of these rivers, and on the point of land between them the last remaining one of the old block-houses built in connection with Fort Halifax more than a century and a quarter ago. Thinking of the events compassed by this period of one hundred and twenty-five years, and the changes they have wrought, produced reflections which found expression only in silence. About us were the graves of the dead; and as one stone bore that quaint inscription which has frequently been alluded to by newspaper correspondents, but which we have never seen correctly printed, we give it just as it appears on the old headstone. Has not its advice something of significance when viewed in the light of recent history?

Here lies the body of RICHARD THOMAS,
An Inglishman by birth,
A whig of '76,
By occupation a cooper,
now food for worms,
Like an old rumpuncheon,
marked, numbered and shooked,
He will be raised again
and finished by his Creator,
he died Sept. 28, 1824, aged 75.
America, my adopted country,
my best advice to you is this:
take care of your liberties.

Editorial Notes.

The completion of the report of the Farmers' Convention at Alfred this week, will give opportunity hereafter for our usual variety; and the Woman's Column will be given a place next week if every other column goes blank. See if it don't!

Mr. John Mason of Ward 4 of this city has handed us the cocoon or winter home of one of the large larvæ, which he found closely attached to a cedar bush. The covering is as tough as parchment, and would have furnished elegant winter quarters for his bug-ship, from which it would have emerged in spring with wings set ready for a journey, had it not been prematurely dislodged. As it is, he probably thinks it time to be waking up, as he begins to be quite frisky and is turning about in bed!

The "boss" trace of corn, so far contributed to our office exhibition this year, has been brought in by Amos Rollins, Esq., of Belgrade; a gentleman whose name has been on the subscription books of the FARMER from the very first issue, who believes in good stock, good farming and in Maine farmers growing their own corn. The ears of this splendid trace average ten inches in length, they are very uniform, filled out to the very tip, and have such a color as is good to look at

The Sulky plow (Osborn patent) seems to be gaining in favor all over New England. It has been largely exhibited at the fairs the present season, and has everywhere met the commendation of farmers, and all others who have seen it work. The plowman has only to take a seat on the plow and by levers can manage it much easier, it is said, than by the usual method. It is built exclusively by Gregg & Co. at their works in Trumansburg, N. Y., and sold by Hon. Fred Atwood at manufacturers' prices throughout the new England States.

Irad Fenderson, Esq., of Stetson, informs us he has had good success the present season in growing sugar beets—the variety from which beet sugar is extracted—and is to have an analysis of the same made by Prof. Carmichael of Bowdoin College. He has kindly promised to furnish us with the results of the analysis for publication. Mr. Fenderson has great faith in beets and beet sugar, and thoroughly believes the enterprise is to be finally successfully established in our State.

And speaking of beet sugar reminds us that at last we have a thorough and trustworthy treatise on the subject of the growing and manipulation of sugar beets—in English. Heretofore it has been only in German publications that the most accurate information was to be found on this subject, which was of course accessible to but few persons in this country likely to be interested. The work in question is by William Crookes, F. R. S., the editor of the *Chemical News*, one of the highest English authorities in chemical science; and although somewhat expensive it is likely to be reprinted in this country. Indeed, the treatise is founded on a series of articles which originally appeared in the *Scientific American*, and to which due credit is given. So complete a work on the manufacture of beet-root sugar has never appeared in English, and we mention the fact for the benefit of those desiring information upon the subject.

For the Maine Farmer.

Fall Feed.

When cows begin to shrink in milk, as the pasture grasses grow short, farmers direct their thoughts towards providing means to keep up the flow. During June, and perhaps a part of July, the yield of cows is at its height; but after the middle of the latter month the amount rapidly diminishes, unless something is done in the way of prevention, till the product is reduced in many instances one half.

Now there are three methods of overcoming the difficulty practiced—feeding the fields, soiling, or half soiling, and depending upon purchased food. To the first plan there are some serious objections. We, however find our best practical farmers, many of them, resorting to this practice wholly or in part. That it results in injury to the field very few will deny; but whether the future loss is greater than the present gain is a question. Some think to feed off a part of the aftermath is no detriment, or even a benefit; and they are men too whose opinion is worthy of all respect—men who have made their business a success; men who do not carry things to extremes, who believe the medium course is about the best. Their views are founded upon practical experience and observation. Where it is best to let the clover in the field as long as possible, it is undoubtedly desirable to remove the second crop before seeding, thus avoiding to a certain extent the exhaustion and subsequent death of the plant, dependent upon the maturation of seed. As practiced by many, however, fall feeding is commenced too late. The cows are allowed to fall off much in milk by being kept in the pasture long after the season of profitable pasturing has passed. Although the yield is increased when the field is substituted for the pasture, yet it will be much less than if the flow had been allowed to diminish but little. When, on the other hand, a demand is made upon the fields too soon, the feed is soon exhausted, and when the cows are turned back into the pasture shrinkage commences again. Upon the whole the present profit from feeding the aftermath, as shown in the yield and condition of cattle, is considerable.

Soiling is resorted to by very few farmers in this part of the country, but rather half-soiling, which involves the planting of special crops to be fed in connection with pasturing. This, in order to be successful, must be liberal. The object aimed at is very often missed, from a failure to realize the necessity of this course. The crop planted is frequently too small and too late; so that the feeding takes place not only scantily, but after the period of greatest urgency is passed. This manner of feeding only aggravates the trouble sought to be avoided.

The opinion is held by some, and with others is fast gaining ground, that purchased food should supplement the deficiency of the pastures. Aside from the ease and saving of time in feeding, the fertility of the farm is increased by this practice. Instead of exhausting pastures by removal, fertilizing material is sent out to them. This latter is also true, though in a much less degree, when crops raised on the farm are fed.

But let us make a little comparison. Suppose half a dozen cows will consume an acre of fodder corn or other forage crop. The figures will be something like this:

Plowing & harrowing	4 00	1500 lbs shorts	16 50
Manure, 5 cords	25 00	50½ bu. corn meal	24 00
Seed and planting	4 00	175 lbs. oil meal	4 50
Cultivating	2 00		
Feeding	5 00		
	$45 00		$45 00

Some of these figures may not be correct for different localities and under varying conditions; but they will perhaps approximate the truth sufficiently for illustration. Now, will not the latter investment produce as good a result as the former?

But it will be objected that it is easier to raise the crop than the money. Suppose, however, instead of raising the fodder crop, some other is raised on the acre, which being sold will furnish the amount and something in addition.

The tendency of our agriculture is constantly toward the practices of the older nations. We import their animals and seeds, their theories and methods of investigation; and we attempt to grow and feed their crops. Our imitation of their practice of feeding purchased food is also gradually becoming developed. When the time shall come when every State shall have its experimental station, many of these knotty questions will qe satisfactorily settled. Till then their solution can be looked for only through our agricultural college and private expeiment. J. W. NOTRH, Jr.

Augusta.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Social Chat.

Good morning, brother Despondency. You are feeling just a little blue, are you not? When the thing looks dark to me I don't think much about it, but just come right down to the work, and if I don't repeat a well worn classic phrase, I think of it, and govern myself accordingly. It reads like this: "Root hog, or die." I am free to say that I cannot tell my brother how a man is to get on in the world by farming alone, because I can't imagine how any one with brains enough to think of getting a living in any way, could for a moment think of starting in any such way. I know a man right in my own town whose parents were not worth a dollar, who worked out until he laid up $600; then bought a farm for $2000, took home his parents—his father an invalid—married a good, smart, resolute Yankee girl (we have more of the same sort left), run in debt for a yoke of oxen and a cow, and struck for a home and an honest living. It was since the war that the farm was bought, and to-day it is paid for; the buildings in good repair; there is a good stock of cattle upon it, and a family of children in the house making music to cheer and encourage the fond parents in the battles of life.

"Well," says brother Despondency, "how did he do it?" Why, my dear sir, it was "Root hog, or die" with him, and he *rooted*. If he had undertaken to find out by figures how much better or worse off he was than if he had learned a trade, and kept figuring until he had solved the problem, his farm would have been under a mortgage to-day. Farmers who keep steadily on in their chosen profession are able, under ordinary circumstances, to pay their bills, maintain their families, meet the claims of society, and then have a small balance on the right side of the ledger. Whether they could have done better at some other business we cannot tell, because we don't know what would have been if it had been. I know that it costs something to live; but if the farmer must keep his buildings in repair, the mechanic must pay rent; if the farmer must take care of his stock, his stock will in turn take care of him; if he must pay for his hired labor, he must see to it that he gets the value of his money; if he has a half dozen big girls who must be dressed in the height of fashion, he must "root" a little harder; but even in that case, I don't see but he is quite as well off as the mechanic.

"But," says Mr. Despondency, "this is not answering my questions." Very well. I don't propose to answer them. All I want to do is just to cheer you up a little. Next time you write for the dear old FARMER, I hope to see content, or cheerfulness, or courage, or some other inspiring name, beneath your communication. But if you or your boy, or any of your friends decide to learn a trade, go in with the same determination to do or die, and the probabilities are that if you do die it will not be for want of bread. Then again, your mechanic is going to work for other parties and to get wages while learning his trade; while your farmer is to set up business for himself. Suppose you reverse it, and let the first boy, with no experience, go into business on his own account, while the second shall apprentice himself to some intelligent, enterprising farmer for three or five years, where he can get his $200 a year and his board and washing in the bargain. You see this would change the looks of the matter materially. I remember, in a meeting of our Farmers' Club, one of our prosperous and progressfarmers was arguing that there was no money in farming. A bushel of corn or a barrel of flour could be bought for less than the cost of producing; that a yoke of steers or a hog cost more than they would bring in the market, &c., &c. After he sat down, his son, a clergyman, who was at home on a visit, was called upon. He rose, and said that his father had preached that story a long time, but somehow he took good care of a large family, paid doctors' bills, taxes, subscriptions for preaching, improved his farm and buildings, drove a good team and laid up a little money every year. And Mr. Editor, I think very likely Mr. Despondency is doing the same. We are told by divine inspiration that it is not wise to compare and measure ourselves among and with ourselves, and I guess St. Paul was about right. So if we are farmers, let us give our whole attention to farming, and if we are in any other honest business let us stick to that.

"All wealth of honest work is born;
All greatness comes by toil."

Clearview. D. H. THING.

For the Maine Farmer.

Harrison Town Fair.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10th, the Harrison Farmers' and Mechanic's' Club held its annual cattle show and fair, at the Town Hall in the village and on the grounds adjacent. The weather was as favorable as could be wished, and a large number of people were present from this and adjoining towns. Without attempting a report of special details, it is sufficent to say this exhibition nobly illustrated the superior genius which the wide awake men and women of this town possess for producing the highest quality of farm stock, grain, vegetables and fruit, as well as articles of household handiwork, and work from the shop. There were 167 entries in all departments, against 159 last year. The receipts for tickets to hall exhibition amounted to nearly $120. Amount of premiums awarded was about $65. The Bridgton brass band was employed, and furnished excellent music. The baby show was very successful, about a dozen babies, handsome, healthy and well behaved being present. For handsomest baby under one year of age, first premium, $2, was awarded to Mrs. John E. Woodsum of Harrison; second premium, $1, to Mrs. Agnes Downs of Bridgton; for babies between one and two years, first premium, $2, to Mrs. Alvin T. Harmon of Harrison; second premium $1, to Mrs. C. Fessenden of Bridgton.

Among the youthful competitors for premiums for superior domestic work, we noticed some fine looking loaves of bread by Misses Mamie and Isabella Cummings, young daughters of Mr. Geo. H. Cummings who took first and second premiums for same. Eunice O. Walker, a young daughter of Mr. Isaac Walker, took first premium for best darning. Hollis Caswell, son of Mr. N. N. Caswell, exhibited 24 pieces of most elegant and highly finished work, embracing brackets, picture frames, etc., in which the fret-saw work was particularly fine. We venture to say no better work of the kind was ever shown in the State, and we will bet on Hollis against all the boy-jiggers in the big down east.

The officers of the club for 1878 were elected Oct. 13th, as follows: President, James G. Whitney; Vice Presidents, Saml. Thomes and Geo. W. Brackett; Secretary and Treasury, Alphonso Moulton; Assistant Secretary, Moses E. Hall; Executive Committee, Geo. H. Cummings, J. W. Caswell, Asa P. Whitney.

Haskell P. Kneeland, superintendent of our town farm, reports 80 bushels of ears of corn raised on one half acre of ground, costing 25 cents per bushel. Lewis Edson raised the same amount on a half acre, and Albion Cusley raised 72 bushels on one-half an acre, at a cost of 22 1-2 cents per bushel as per certified statement. Franklin Walker raised 156 bushels of Early Rose potatoes on one-half acre of ground, and had a splendid crop of onions on a small patch. Other fine crops are reported by our farmers, which I have not space to mention.

G. F.

For the Maine Farmer.

Some Notes by the Way.

Pioneer Settlers—Farm of J. F. Flanders.

I recently spent a pleasant half hour in looking over the farm and stock of Mr. Flanders who was one of the pioneer settlers in this section. His farm is situated on the road known as the "Happy Corner Road," running west towards Mt. Katahdin. A look over his smooth, well cultivated field shows what industry and perseverance can accomplish when accompanied by a will to keep them going. Twice Mr. Flanders has been burned out and suffered heavy losses, besides having been laid up with a broken leg, but with true manly courage he has constantly persevered and now has one of the best farms in this section, with good buildings, some sleek looking cattle and a flock of choice sheep and lambs. From the hill at the rear of Mr. Flanders' buildings one gets a fine view of old Mt. Katahdin, which looms up in all its grandeur, forming a conspicuous object in the scene. A night was passed with Mr. G. A. Robertson of Stockabeema, who was one of the first settlers. He came to Aroostook county when it was a solid forest, and the stories he tells of pioneer life are interesting, because the experiences of one who participated in them. The settlers here as elsewhere had to endure many hardships, which I fear the young men of our day would hardly have the courage to face; indeed they have no need to, for the facilities now at hand for making comfortable, pleasant homes in Aroostook are far superior to what they have ever been before—with good State and town roads, besides the advantages of a railroad. There is no reason why young men cannot come here and soon make for themselves good homes. I am informed more actual settlers have come in here the past summer than ever before during the same length of time. In the towns of Woodland and Mapleton, every lot, I am told, is taken up. I notice a general improvement in farms, cattle, buildings, &c., which speaks well for the prosperity of the county.

The Crops in Aroostook

have been very good. The hay crop fell short a little from last year, but there is considerable old hay that has been summered over so there will be no lack for this great staple. Grain is turning out well according to the amount of straw; although late sown wheat was rather light. There was a larger breadth planted to potatoes last spring, than usual; and many of the farmers in the county are under contracts with the starch factories, and in consequence are raising large quantities. They bring from 20 to 25 cts. per bushel. These starch factories, I fear, will yet prove an injury to the county. Many of the farmers make the potato the only crop grown; and when hauled to the starch factory they use up the proceeds of the crop and then have to get in debt for the remainder of the year, on the promise of next year's crop of potatoes. Now this is hard business and farmers have got to abandon it to a certain extent, and adopt some other system, or run the risk of constantly lessening the value of their farms. There is no crop raised so exhausting to some of the most valuable constituents of the soil, or of the food that plants live on, as the potato crop; and when followed up for a succession of years without using much if any dressing to replace the fertility taken away, it must leave the land poor; and in my opinion farmers would be better off in ten years, to grow only what potatoes they wanted to use for home consumption, and grow other crops to be fed out on the farm. I know farmers will say we must have money, and the potato crop is all we have to get money out of. But I say better raise stock, or even grain.

I am informed there will be more lumbering done on the Aroostook and St. John waters this winter than for several winters past—some crews have already gone into the woods. The fall has been a most favorable one for all kinds of business. There has been no frost up to the first of October; and new strawberries and raspberries—the second crop—have been picked in several places. J. P. C.

Houlton.

For the Maine Farmer.

Wheat Growing in Maine in 1877.

Report from a Single District.

The summer is ended and the harvest gathered; and it is a good one considering the protracted drouth all through the spring and summer months. The hay crop fell short about one third from last year; potatoes have done well; corn is very good, although that which was planted on dry ground suffered some; gardens have done first rate, and I hear of one man who has raised one hundred bushels of onions on one fourth of an acre. Dr. Burbank grew two crops in his garden from the same ground. After digging his early potatoes he sowed peas, and to-day, September 11th, he told me he was having green peas for dinner. The grain crop was good, both of wheat and oats.

I have been requested to give to the readers of the FARMER the amount of wheat raised in the Robinson District, so called, in this town the past season.—

Name.	Bushels.
George Ireland,	10
Ezra McIntire,	36
Jarius Dolloff,	42
Eben Leighton,	21
Eben M. Brown,	31
Henry Dolloff,	28
Thomas Robinson,	7
Randolph Towle,	13
Cyrus Roberts,	21
Jeremiah Towle,	37
Lewis French,	99
Charles Dolloff,	35
Charles McGaffey,	55
Joseph Robinson,	38
John Yeaton,	28
Charles Brown,	22
Total,	492

This four hundred and fifty-two bushels will make ninety barrels of flour. There were in the district two farmers who did not sow any wheat. In the above list fifteen families comprise sixty-five persons: this will give to each person seven bushels of wheat and over one barrel of flour. [We should be very glad to publish similar statistics from all the neighborhoods in the state, if parties will only furnish the facts. —ED.] JOHN BROWN.

Mt. Vernon.

For the Maine Farmer.

St. Croix Agricultural Exhibition.

At the exhibition of the St. Croix Agricultural Society at St. Stephen, N. B., Oct. 11, I noticed in looking over the stock a splendid herd of thoroughbred Herefords, the property of C. F. Todd, Esq., which he purchased of H. C. Burleigh and G. E. Shores of your State. In the herd was also a large number of fine grade Hereford heifers. Mr. Todd also shew some full blood Shorthorns selected from the herds of the late Hon. Warren Percival, Howard & Ellis and L. A. Dow of your Strte; together with two cows purchased at the government sale of stock from the herd of George Brown of Bowbank, Ontario —Peggy 13th, a red-roan cow by Duke of Bourbon, out of Peggy, weighing 1600 lbs; and Laura, weighing 1375 lbs.

There was also exhibited at this fair by Stephen Hill of Milltown, a large lot of roots, vegetables, &c.; among them some mangolds weighing 9 to 10 lbs. each. Mr. Hill is a first class farmer and gardener, and cut 12 tons of hay from 3 1-2 acres; and raised a splendid crop of Lost Nation wheat. He has also a large field of small fruits which yield him a large income every season. Mr. Hill says, with proper care and attention the finest fruits may be raised in this section, his success demonstrates it. H. A. H.

For the Maine Farmer.

Dresden Town Fair.

The fourth annual Fair by the citizens of Dresden was held at Pownalboro Hall, on Wednesday, Oct. 17th, day and evening. There was a fine local display of Holstein, Ayrshire, Durham, Jersey and other cattle; also quite a number of horses, some sheep, swine and poultry.

In the Hall we noticed a good collection of corh, wheat, oats, barley, beans; some fine samples of butter; an excellent display of apples and other fruits; the usual variety of preserves, as well as of rugs and quilts, embroidery and needle-work. Some very nice organs were exhibited by the New England and Smith American Organ Companies. In short, all labored assiduously to have the fair a success, which it decidedly was, except that we regret to be obliged to say that there was no ploughing match, and no agricultural implements on exhibition. We hope these may be introduced another year.

A.

[Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

Semi-Annual Meeting of the Board of Agriculture at Alfred, Oct. 16-18.

SECOND DAY.

Afternoon Session.

In the absence of Mr. Wasson, who was to have presented a paper on the subject of Muscle-bed manure, JAMES O. ADAMS, Esq., Secretary of the New Hampshire State Board of Agriculture delivered an address on the subject, "What can be done to make Farming Profitable?" Among the obstacles in the way of success he mentioned these;—The boys will not work on the farm and unskilled labor has to be employed, the laborer not being interested in the results; the deficiency of labor for the household and the difficulty of obtaining a supply, increased cost of living and increase of taxation without corresponding increase in resources. The speaker asked an old and successful farmer what was the best advice to be given to the tillers of the soil. "Tell them," said the old man, "to be honest, frugal, thoughtful and mind their own business." Better general advice than this could not be given, but the farmer asked for specific advice. He would say first, do not, except under special circumstances, attempt to cultivate our barren lands. There are enough good river bottoms and strong uplands. Let us cultivate these well, and then if there is a deficiency in the supply of our agricultural products let us make it up, by manufacturing. The characteristics of good agriculture enumerated were:—good plowing; thorough pulverization; clean culture; drainage; irrigation; and keeping such stock as is best adapted to the situation and will bring most money. See that each animal you raise is better than those that produced him. Take the best care of all dumb animals. Encourage the boys and girls by paying them for their labor and making their surroundings pleasant. Use the best improved machinery. Study to make good sales of your crops. Cultivate your own powers, and especially labor to give your children a broader culture than you have had yourself; thus only can our agriculture be raised to a higher plane. This address as may be judged by the above abstract was a very suggestive one.

Messrs. MALLETT and WINSLOW gave the result of their observation of the use of muscle manure, or muscle mud as it is sometimes called, in their respective localities, and were followed by GEN. BROWN, who had had experience in its use. Muscle mud, he said, consists of decayed muscles which are a small species of shell fish, with the ooze and slime accumulated in the process of the formation of the bed. Muscle beds grow as oyster beds do, the lower fish being destroyed by the superincumbent presence of those which grow above them. The muscles grow very fast, and while they have been used for manure about as long as shell fish have been used for any purpose, beds which have been hauled from for a long series of years have rather increased than diminished in size, so that for those in reach of them they form an unfailing supply. Muscle mud is considered by those who have used it a perfect manure for grass fields; a field of grass requires no other dressing to keep good its fertility. Prof. Carmichael states that it contains all the constituents of a perfect manure. The shell part is probably of no great value unless the land needs lime; the great value is in the decayed animal substance. The facilities for getting it are best when the ice will bear. Then holes are cut and the mud is thrown on the ice and hauled ashore. It can't be spread until it has been disintegrated by the action of frost, then it has much the appearance of ashes. A gentleman who lives seven miles from the seashore, prefers to pay $2.00 per cord for muscle mud delivered at the railroad station and take it on the cars that distance to buying stable manure at the same price in town. A thoroughly reliable gentleman, who spread large quantities of the mud on his field 25 years ago says that he can see distinctly the effects of it to-day.

GEN. BROWN stated in detail the results of the use of muscle mud on his own farm and the adjoining one under his charge. On the latter he contracted for the supply on a field of 10 acres at 100 cords of mud at $2.25 per cord. This is an unusually heavy dressing, but the field was badly run out and it was desired to renovate it for some time to come. The result was a luxuriant crop of clover without seeding. It seems to be the universal testimony of those using the mud that this is the result, though where the seed comes from might be a question difficult to answer. While the mud in the state in which it is taken from the bank is very heavy to transport, it is reduced in weight by the evaporation of the water.

The evening session was devoted to a lecture by JAMES A. VARNEY of North Vassalboro, on "Our Homes." This was interesting, practical, and well delivered. Suggestive contrasts of what a farmer's home is with what it should be were made. Among other pointed things said was that gardening is an art not understood among farmers. This was illustrated by a description of the way in which a garden is made and its appearance in successive stages of making and growth, which was only too true of a good many farm gardens. Then a description of what a garden should be was given. A proper consideration for health, as well as an appreciation of a good table ought to stimulate the farmers to cultivate many things which are easily raised, and are yet considered as delicacies which only the rich man can enjoy. An earnest plea was made for the adornment of the house and grounds and the cultivation of flowers in garden and in windows, with practical direction for the making of beds and borders.

THIRD DAY.

Afternoon Session.

This session was devoted to the reading of papers by the students of the Maine State College, most of them descriptive of experiments in agriculture which have been performed either by the students themselves or the Farm Superintendent. The preparation and presentation of these papers were alike creditable to the young men.

Experiments by the Students of the Maine State College, Reported to the Board of Agriculture.

1. To determine the relative value of cooked and uncooked meal in feeding swine. G. W. MERRILL, Auburn, Junior.

This experiment has continued for seven years, with the same general results, showing conclusively that uncooked meal is more profitable than cooked. The experiments were clearly reported in the paper presented.

2. To show the relative value of different manures in top-dressing grass land. J. D. CUTTER, Brewer, Junior.

Five years ago, eight plats of land, each two rods square, were carefully measured; one was dressed with cow manure, two years, at the rate of five cords per acre; another with horse manure; another with fine old muck; another with muck and salt; another with plaster; another with salt; and the last had no dressing applied. The best average results were from the cow manure, and the next from horse manure.

3. To determine the best methods of planting potatoes. W. E. FERGUSON, Bangor, Junior.

A series of experiments in cultivating potatoes were commenced by the scientific society of the Maine State College. The cutting of potatoes for seed into different pieces, the planting at different depths, the shape of the hills, the different distances of the rows and of the hills in a row, give such varying results from year to year that it is quite difficult to determine which method is absolutely the best. When the seed potatoes are cut through the centre the butt ends produce the most. The best depth is four inches in pointed hills.

4. To determine the value of Stockbridge's fertilizer on Indian corn. PRESCOTT KEYES, Richmond, Sophomore.

An acre of corn was planted one-half with seed sent by L. H. Winslow of Nobleboro, member of the Board of Agriculture for Lincoln county, and one-half with "Red Glaze Yellow," from New York. This variety ripened nearly a fortnight before the other. The increase from the use of the fertilizer was twenty bushels to the acre—and the corn was of much better quality when the fertilizer was applied.

5. To test different fertilizers on potatoes. F. W. POWERS, Fryeburg, Sophomore.

The Connecticut experiment station sent out different substances to be tested on different crops. As the materials most likely to be wanting are nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid, these materials were applied in various combinations, and the result showed the best when nitrogenous and phosphoric manures were applied together.

6. To test the value of these fertilizers on beets, beans and ruta bagas. G. W. LUFKIN, No. Yarmouth, Sophomore.

The plat selected had been for many years in pasture and the experiment showed conclusively that the phosphorus carried off in milk and other products of the dairy was especially necessary for the fertility of the soil, and that when this was supplied the best results were obtained. This experiment was fully and accurately reported.

7. The cultivation of sugar beets. D. S. JONES, Dennysville, Sophomore.

Different kinds of seeds were sown, and different methods of planting were tried. It is shown that sugar beets can be profitably raised in Maine, and that the manufacture of sugar may be made one of the leading industries when the appropriate machinery is procured to separate the sugar.

8. To show that water can be raised in a tube by atmospheric pressure more than thirty-four feet. W. E. TRIPP, Lyman, Senior.

This ingenious experiment was performed by himself and Prof. Fernald, in which water was raised by atmospheric pressure to the cupola of the new barn, a height of some 50 feet, this being the highest point that it was practicable to carry the hose. It is a well known law in Natural Philosophy that a column of water 33 feet high will balance the pressure of the atmosphere, and that consequently that distance, less a slight deduction for friction, is the maximum height to which water can be raised by atmospheric pressure. The result in this case was obtained by mixing water with air, and as the mixture was of course lighter than water, it would require a higher column of it to balance the pressure, and consequently it would rise to a greater height in a tube from which the pressure had been removed, and since the water and air mix without combining, we do not see why the water is not as truly raised to that height by atmospheric pressure, as it is raised by the same force to a less height in the ordinary use of a pump. This paper was well presented and attracted a good deal of attention.

9. Description of the Barn and Farm House. B. V. CARVER, Carver's Harbor, Junior.

At the conclusion of the exercises a very handsome belt was presented to Maj. Hills, by the Coburn Cadets, Ellwell of the Senior class making the presentation. The meeting was then closed and the audience assembled in the square outside to witness the drill of the Cadets. They exhibited the highest proficiency in going through the manual; and at this point it is due to them to say that in all respects their deportment at Alfred and on the way was such as to win for themselves and for the College, the most favorable expressions of opinion. This was very neatly expressed at a speech made which they gave in the evening to the attendants on the meeting at the Alfred House, by Vice President Harris in behalf of the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Goding of the Alfred House in behalf of the citizens

quality; corn crop above an average, with increased acreage; grain of all kinds an average crop, with an increase in the acreage of wheat; potatoes quite an increase in acreage, yield two-thirds of an average crop per acre; garden crops above the average; beans an average crop; root crops considerably above the average; apples about one-eighth average crop; grapes and pears an average crop, but little grown; in cabbagewe "beat the Dutch."

ANDROSCOGGIN—Mr. Gilbert. Hay a little short of the average, but a pretty good crop secured in good condition; corn is fully an average crop the county through, in acreage perhaps a slight increase; a good deal of sweet corn in the county which was exceedingly good; grain crop a full average, in the towns remote from our market centre; Lewiston and Auburn, there is an increase in the acreage of wheat; potatoes possibly two-thirds average crop, early potatoes good when under the best cultivation; with the later potatoes quite a variation, many fields a failure and others a passably good crop, no great increase in acreage; potato beetles seeded all over the county, in some limited sections there was considerable labor required to keep them down, but generally there was no difficulty with them; nearly everywhere there was a determination to overcome them; beans an average crop; little attention is given to the cultivation of roots as as a food for cattle, where grown an average crop; no marked increase or decrease of stock—there has been a gradual increase since the grass-hopper year; generally sufficient stock is kept to consume the hay crop, but little hay being carried out of the county; return from stock very satisfactory; cheese factories have done a good business, quality of cheese has been up to highest standard, and prices obtained satisfactory, much better than those of last year; butter dairying at a discount, as everywhere. Pasturage about an average on the whole, rather dry in summer, but recovered after the rains in August. Apples a failure with the exception of a small quantity raised in the southern section of the county. The other fruits abundant.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, November 3, 1877.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Collectors' Notices.

Mr. C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in Oxford county during the month of October.

Mr. J. P. CLARK will visit Aroostook county during October.

Mr. S. N. Taber will call upon our subscribers in Washington county in October.

Distribution of Forests.

A correspondent asks us to explain why the prairies of the west are destitute of trees. The simplest answer to this question is because no trees have ever grown there, but if as we suppose, he desires to know why they have not grown there, he is asking a question which has long puzzled geologists and vegetable physiologists, and has not yet been satisfactorily answered. It cannot be expected, therefore, that we can give much light on the subject but we will state a few facts with regard to the distribution of forests which may not be entirely devoid of interest.

It has long been noticed by geologists that there is a very close connection between the distribution of forests and of that surface formation denominated by geologists *drift*. The question may be asked, what is drift? The hills and ridges composed of loose earth and boulders, or of sand, gravel and cobbles distributed over large portions of the earth's surface, more especially in places north of forty degrees of north latitude, and which are the results of glacial action. The whole of New England and New York, most of the Canadas, a large part of Ohio and Indiana, the whole of Michigan and of northern Wisconsin, constitute a region over which the northern drift phenomena have been displayed on the grandest scale, and nearly the entire area is covered with extensive deposits of coarse gravel and boulders. Here almost everywhere, we see signs of glacial action. We see it in the long ridges called either moraines or horsebacks, according as the material of which they are composed is fine or coarse, in the granite boulders carried far out of place, in the rounded pebbles and cobbles and in the diluvial scratches or grooves upon the rocky sides and summits of the mountains.

These deposits of coarse gravel and boulders, if not at the surface, are never far from it, the finer materials deposited above them by alluvian and other agencies, forming only a thin covering or soil for the coarse deposits beneath.

Farther to the south and west from the area already described, we find the underlying rock, or "bed rock" in mining parlance, deeply covered with loose materials, all very different in character from those described above. Here the drift agencies have been very limited in their action, or have not acted at all, and the bulk of the superficial detritus has been formed from the decomposition of the underlying rock, and has been but little disturbed or removed from its original position. Extensive areas exist in Minnesota, in southern Wisconsin and in other places, where a drift pebble has never been found either on the surface, or beneath it, so far as it has been examined. The strata of the rock have become chemically disaggregated and dissolved by the percolation of the rain through them, the calcareous matter or carbonate of lime, has been carried off in solution, leaving behind as a residuum the insoluble matter which the rock originally contained, and which consisting largely of silica and clay, forms by its aggregation a silicious and clayey deposit of almost impalpable fineness. It is this fine material which everywhere makes up the bulk of the prairie soil.

We have thus briefly described the general character of the drift and prairie formations, and it remains to state that wherever drift agencies have operated the first settlers found primeval forests, and upon the drift formation everywhere, trees grow and flourish, while the extensive prairies which have never been disturbed by glacial action, are found covered only with coarse grass. We often see this principle illustrated on a small scale. Small ponds situated in the midst of the forest gradually become filled up with finely comminuted materials, and as the soil rises above the water, it becomes covered not with trees, but with a growth of sedges and grasses, and although surrounded by a dense forest, trees never encroach upon it, whether the ground becomes hard and dry or remains wet and swampy. The inevitable conclusion is that these finely comminuted soils are inimical to the growth of trees, though why they are so, is a question for the vegetable physiologist to solve. The only reason therefore which we are able to give, why trees do not grow upon the prairie, is that the character, not the composition, of prairie soil is unfavorable to their growth.

From a study of this subject we learn how much we are indebted to those mighty drift agencies which were in active operation for untold centuries before the dry land appeared in this western world. We sometimes complain of the rough, uneven surface of New England, of the distribution of boulders, in many places so plentiful as to render the land almost worthless, of our cobbly ridges and sandy plains, and forget that the same agencies which produced these, gave us our beauty and variety of landscape, our rocks for building and fencing purposes, and above all, our immense forests of wood and timber—such vast sources of convenience, comfort and wealth! Those disturbing agencies, under the guidance of an overruling Providence, were all the time working for the good of races of men yet unborn and perhaps uncreated.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. Rev. Dr. Weston preached in the Universalist church Sunday.——Fifty cases of boots were on Monday shipped to Portland from the Kennebec jail workshop.——Mrs. Frances Payson, daughter of the late Col. Arthur Lithgow, died recently in Leamington, Eng., aged 77 years. She was born in this city, and lived here over twenty years.——A white horse which had escaped from its owner, was found in the tomb at the cemetery.——Charles Dill was brought before Judge True Friday and plead guilty to the larceny of an overcoat and that from Geo. Standish, and was ordered to pay a fine of ten dollars and cost. He paid and was discharged.——John Groves, barber in Darby block has sold out——The scholars in the Village District are enjoying a week's vacation——We hear of cases of diptheria and typhoid fever in this city.——Mr. Ecob preached at Lewiston Sunday——News has been received of the death of Capt. Thos. Smith whose family reside on Winthrop street——The proprietors of the steamer Star of the East have reduced the fare between here and Boston to $3, for the round trip; price of meals 50 cents.——The Capital Guards celebrated their 8th anniversary Wednsday evening.

CRIMINAL. The Grand Jury for Kennebec county reported Saturday and were discharged. The criminal docket was taken up Monday. The following are among the indictments found: Against Charles B. Gilman, two for felonious assaults, one with intent to take life with a loaded gun; four against Willard A. Thompson for breaking and larceny in the night time; in three of these John C. Johnson is included; in one Wm. C. Sherman, in one L. W. Cochrane, four against John C. Johnson, one receiving stolen goods, two breaking, one burglary; in one of these Thompson and Sherman are included, in another Cochrane; five against L. W. Cochrane, Edward Bickford and Alexander Trask being included in one, and parties already named in two others, all for breaking and larceny; two against George Cochrane for receiving stolen goods; against Eugene Cochrane et al., breaking, &c.; Joseph Ellis et al., simple larceny; Noah S. Paul, selling mortgaged property; George White, et als., assaulting and obstructing an officer; Frazier Gilmore, assault and battery; Cornelius Carlon, breaking, &c.; Arthur Smith, assault with intent to kill; Mary J. Bragg, receiving, &c.; Luther Ellis and wife, same; Alexander Trask, breaking, &c.

☞From Loring, Short & Harmon of Portland, we have No. 86 of the Old Farmers Almanac for 1878, by Robt. B. Thomas. From it we learn that there will be four eclipses this year; two of the sun and two of the moon. A total eclipse of the sun will occur July 29, which will appear in New England as a partial eclipse. An eclipse of the moon will take place February 17, partially visible. The moon will set eclipsed. August 12th, the moon will rise eclipsed, partially visible in the United States. May 6th, will occur a transit of mercury over the sun's disk, visible in the United States. This popular annual is filled with the usual amount of useful and entertaining matter.

☞We have received the first number of the National Tribune, a monthly sheet published in Washington and claiming to be devoted to the interests of the soldiers and sailors of the late war, but after examining it closely we cannot help coming to the conclusion that it is devoted to the interests of Claim Agents. This everlasting agitation of the pension and bounty questions before Congress, while it may be gratifying to the bummers, is only disgusting to those soldiers and sailors of the late war, who fought the battles of the republic, and desire to have some credit for patriotism. The editor of the Tribune is a claim agent in Washington, which fully accounts for his desire to serve the soldiers.

☞Miss Sarah J. Prentiss of Paris died in Bangor on Sunday the 21st inst aged 54 years. She was widely known as a lady of literary tastes and culture; and her name will be recognized by many soldiers in the war, as a volunteer nurse in the hospitals at Washington. She supposed the disease which proved fatal after years of intense suffering, was caused by poison contracted during army service. She was an artist, and many of her paintings have been greatly admired. She spent three years in Europe returning only about two years ago, and since that time she has been much out of health. She was a sister of the late Henry E. Prentiss of Bangor and died at the residence of his widow. Her remains were buried in the old family lot in Paris.

☞General Grant has been the innocent cause of a most unseemly row between the Mayor and Council of Leamington, England. Hearing that he was to visit the town a "reception" was projected, but the Council voted down the matter on account of the expense. The Mayor accordingly paid the expenses out of his own pocket, and revenged himself by not inviting the Councillors to the banquet. A spirited interchange of verbal compliments ensued, in the course of which the Mayor remarked that "the General was not accustomed to be exhibited at feeding-time at so much a head." The townspeople loudly criminate both the Mayor and Council.

☞There have been fifty-three steamers and seven hundred men engaged in porgy fishing on the Maine coast this season, but fewer fish than usual have been caught, as the fish have been smaller and escaped through the net meshes. The largest school seen was five miles long and a mile wide, and was estimated to contain millions of barrels, but the largest single catch was fourteen hundred barrels. There are sixteen porgy oil-factories in the State, each employing from twenty-five to sixty men, and involving a capital of over one million dollars.

☞Dow & Storer, provision and grocery dealers under Granite Hall nearly opposite the FARMER office, have made changes in the internal arrangement of their store which makes it much more convenient for their largely increasing business, They are selling groceries at bottom prices and all the farmers in Augusta and the adjoining towns are finding it out. Quick sales and small profits is their motto, and they strictly adhere to it.

☞Persons with delicate lungs and those wishing immunity from colds and pulmonary trouble in the coming winter, should now begin the wearing of a good chest protector, made from felt or chamois. Partridge Brothers, opposite the FARMER office, have a large supply of the kinds most approved, and also have a large stock of genuine chamois skins to make them from.

☞We have received a copy of the annual catalogue of Bates College, from which we learn that the College has enjoyed a good degree of prosperity during the past year. The whole number of students in attendance during the past year has been 140, of whom 17 were in the Theological School. The freshman class numbers 51.

☞Senator Blaine who has been confined to his room most of the time since his arrival in Washington, left for his home in a special car Tuesday. He is sufferiug from a malarial fever.

TRIAL OF GILMAN. The trial of Charles B. Gilman of Waterville, for an assault with intent to kill, which was commenced at the Court House in this city Monday, excited considerable interest and attracted quite a crowd. The standing and character of the parties in the community where they reside, and the peculiar circumstances under which the assault was committed, have given a greater importauce to this case than usually attaches to cases of this class. Gilman is a man thirty-eight years of age, unmarried, and resides with his mother in Waterville. He has generally been regarded as a rather quiet, inoffensive young man, though of a violent temper when aroused. Mr. Edwin Noyes, between whom and the Gilman family occurred the trouble about the line fence, which culminated in the shooting affray, is a well know citizen of Waterville, a lawyer by profession and formerly quite distinguished as such, and for quite a number of years Superintendent of the Maine Central railway.

At the trial E. F. Webb, Esq., county attorney appeared for the State and Reuben Foster of Waterville, and E. F. Pillsbury and W. P. Whitehouse of Augusta for the defence. A jury was empanelled for the trial of the case composed of the following gentlemen: Robert L. Clark, Augusta, foreman; P. N. Barstow, Gardiner; Wm. W. Hankerson, Chelsea; Samuel B. Trafton, Waterville; Frank Trask, Windsor; David T. Neal, Augusta; Ira D. Tracey, Rome; Samuel Davis, Sidney; James N. Wing, Wayne; Isaiah Hawes, Vassalboro'; Hartwell C. White, Belgrade; S. C. Jordan, Hallowell.

The circumstances of the assault and the causes which led to it are briefly these. There is a disputed line fence between Noyes and the Gilman family. It is a very small affair to make so much fuss about, probably the land in question is not worth fifty dollars. A line fence built by Noyes several years ago was disturbed in his absence, one of the Gilmans' established the fence where they claimed it should be. Noyes returned, and with a force of workmen undertook to remove the fence to its former position. Gilman meantime borrowed fire arms, and having made port holes through a high board fence, he commenced firing on the working party, shooting a number of times. Noyes was uninjured but two of his workmen were hit, and one of them, the same Flood who had previously been beaten, was quite badly hurt. Gilman was arrested, but procured bail, and as soon as he was at liberty he again destroyed the fence and threatened terrible punishment to any one who should oppose him. He was then arrested on an indictment found by the Grand Jury and taken to Augusta. This is the case in brief as first reported and as sustained by the testimony. From County Attorney Webb's opening statement it appears that Gilman was nineteen rods from the Noyes' party when he shot. Gilman when arrested, had a gun in each hand and a loaded and cocked seven shooter in his pocket. The government claim that borrowing the gun, buying ammunition and opening the port-hole show a deliberate and malicious plan. It was also shown that Gilman justified himself for the shooting, and expressed satisfaction at what he had done.

The defence was ably managed, and was based solely upon the ground of the right of a man to defend his own property. After the shooting, Gilman told one of the selectmen of Waterville (this appeared in the evidence) that he had the same right to shoot a man who was trespassing upon his land, that he would have to shoot a burglar who was breaking into his house; that he considered them parallel cases. This mistaken notion seems to have possessed both Gilman and his mother. When on the stand he admitted the shooting, but said he only intended to hit Noyes and Flood in the legs; he disclaimed any intention to kill. Mr. Pillsbury made the argument for the defence and Mr. Webb followed for the State. Wednesday morning Judge Libbey charged the jury. The jury after being absent two hours and a half, brought in a verdict of guilty. Gilman gave bail in the sum of $12,000 for his appearance next Monday. Exceptions will be filed.

A PENOBSCOT GIRL. Eva E. Work the girl who hayed all summer in Brewer village dressed in male attire, was born in Dixmont near Bangor. Her parents lived on a farm, and she, as soon as she was old enough to do any work, commenced to help around the farm. Three of her brothers went into the army. The father was in rather poor health and needed help. Eva, as she grew stronger, did a good deal of the hard work on the farm, and knowing that she could do work easier in boys' clothing than girl's, she assumed male dress.

She continued to do the work on the farm, and as she grew older and stronger, she became a very good farm hand. In 1872 her father died. The mother was then dependent upon her for support. Eva continued on the farm, carrying on the laborious work in a most successful manner till the house and outbuildings caught fire and were totally destroyed. Not daunted in the least by this most unfortunate misfortune, a house near by was rented and the farm continued to be run by her.

Thinking, however, that she could possibly support her mother in some other way better than farming, she moved to Chelsea. There the mother lived while Eva worked in Boston and gained a living for the two. A part of the time she was a hostler at a stable and the remainder of the time drove a team. This went on for two years, when in May last the mother sickened and died, and Eva, not having to support any one besides herself, came to her native Maine once more.

After she had become accustomed to the garb of a man she preferred to continue in that dress, and she now stoutly affirms that she will ever appear in male apparel.

☞The new Methodist Episcopal church at Farmington was dedicated Wednesday of this week. The sermon was preached by Rev. W. H. Boole of New York. On Thursday and Friday are special services holden under the direction of the former pastors. The church is in a very prosperous condition, having realized a sufficient sum at the recent sale of pews to cover the entire indebtedness. Rev. C. Munger is the present pastor, and is very much liked by the society and community at large. He was returned the second time by the conference at the earnest request of the people.

☞Some of the vessels of the New Bedford whaling fleet in the Arctic ocean have been heard from. The Three Brothers, Capt. Owens, was abandoned in the ice near Point Burrow, Sept. 11th, and the crew was distributed among the vessels of the fleet. The W. H. Farnsworth was crushed in the ice, and sank in twenty minutes. The crew was saved. There is no news of the crews of the fleet abandoned last season, with the exception of two Kandkas from the bark Acors Barnes, who made their way to land and are supposed to have perished.

☞A gentleman in Limington very early last spring sent away a lot of apples in barrels. In one of there barrels he placed a note requesting the person who opened them to write him, stating when, where, and in what condition the apples were opened, and what was paid per barrel. About three months afterwards he received a reply to his note from London, Eng., stating the apples were received in good condition, and brought about $5.00 per barrel. The gentleman who packed the apples received about $1.62 per barrel.

☞In our reference to the increase in the tariff of through fares between stations on the Maine Central and Boston, last week, we stated on what we supposed to be good authority, that the Eastern and Boston and Maine roads now charge the Maine Central the full fare of three dollars on each Maine Central passenger carried over their roads between Portland and Boston. We now have reason to believe that we were misinformed, and that whatever contract has ever existed between the Maine Central and Eastern, with regard to the rates between Portland and Boston, is still in force.

The object of the increase in through fares, as stated by the managers of the Maine Central road, is to break up the speculation in tickets, and the movement, as we understand, comes from the Eastern and Boston and Maine roads. The former road, when there was sharp competition between it and the Boston and Maine, made a bid for the Maine Central through passengers at the low price of $1,50 each, or less than one and one-half cents per mile. It was this low fare on through passengers that made speculation in tickets possible, and it had become quite a business.

The fare between Bangor and Portland was $4.50 and to Boston $6. A person, therefore, going from Bangor to Portland, if he understood the matter and none of us are slow to learn these things, would not buy a Portland ticket, but one for Boston. Arriving in Portland he would have a ticket good from Portland to Boston which actually cost him but $1.50 while the regular fare was $3. This enabled him to undersell the company, and the Eastern road soon learned that they were not only carrying the *bona fide* Maine Central passengers at $1.50, but that nearly all their Portland and Boston passengers had Maine Central tickets purchased of the brokers in Portland who had obtained them in the manner described above. We have spoken only of the Bangor station, but the same was true of all the stations east of Portland, though the margin of profit was not always the same. Under the present arrangement the fare from Bangor to Boston has been raised from $6 to $7, and that from Bangor to Portland reduced from $4.50 to $4.00. This gives no chance for speculation. The same is true of other places on the Maine Central and the Eastern and Boston and Maine roads will again be able to sell tickets between Portland and Boston at the regular price of $3.00. Of course the report of the company that 16,468 tickets between Bangor and Portland were sold last year, and only 5,384 to Portland, is no indication of the relative travel to those two points, for as we have already said and we know it to be a fact, many persons who were going only to Portland, bought Boston tickets. The speculation in tickets was not confined to those from the Maine Central to Boston, but was carried on in those from Boston to points on the Maine Central. A person coming from Boston to Portland could buy a ticket for Augusta for $4.00. Arriving in Portland he would have a ticket good from that place to Augusta which cost him only $1.00, while the regular fare was $2.25. Of course he could sell it and make something himself and still leave a margin of profit to the purchaser; but for the $1.25 gained by the parties to each such transaction, the Eastern road lost $1.50.

These are the reasons assigned for the increase in through fares, and our readers can judge for themselves, whether they are sufficient. This paper has no "entangling alliances" with the Maine Central or any other railway or corporation, and always has been and is now free to speak in terms of censure or approval as the case may require, of any of their acts which affect the public good. The Maine Central railroad is one of the great interests of the State and its relations to all our other interests are such that we could not do without it. Its management is in the hands of business men who must be allowed to manage it in a business way, to make money. This is what we ought to expect, and it is only when they are unjust and extortionate that they deserve public censure; and then it should be administered in a spirit of candor and fairness. Our columns will show that we have never hesitated to pronounce upon the acts of this corporation, without fear or favor.

But really, we do not think that the present fare between Augusta and Boston is extortionate, or unreasonably high as compared with the fares on other roads, and were it not for the contract between the Eastern and Maine Central and a desire on the part of some to share in the profits of that sharp bargain, no one would think of complaining. The fare is $4.75; distance 173; rate two and three-fourths cents per mile. We will cite a few cases to show how this compares with other routes. Boston to Providence; distance 44 miles; fare $1.45, or three and one-third cents per mile; Boston to Fitchburg; distance 50 miles; fare $1.55; more than three cents per mile; Boston to Albany; distance 202 miles; fare $5.80; two cents and eight mills per mile; Boston to Rouge's Point; 288 miles; fare $8.25; over three cents per mile; Boston to Williamantic; 85 miles; fare $3.00; over three cents per mile; Boston to New York; distance 236 miles; fare $6.00; little more than two and one-half cents per mile, and the only one in the list with less fare per mile than between Augusta and Boston, under the increased rate, and between New York and Boston are several competing lines. The average fares in New England for distances of 150 to 200 miles, is about three cents per mile, and this has never been considered exorbitant. The fares on the Grand Trunk are nearly twenty per cent higher than that.

☞Mehan, who has been on trial at Belfast, showed that he was only an agent for the Lebanon Agricultural Works; that he had no personal interest in the transaction with Mr. Hayford, who gave a note of $150 for two mowing machines; that he at once ordered the machines to be forwarded, and had ten or twelve machines in Portland, two of which he supposed would be forwarded; that these machines, however were sent to other points, occasioning some delay; but that as soon as they could be obtained from the factory, the machines were sent to Hayford as agreed. The jury were out about ten minutes, and brought in a verdict of not guilty.

HORSE THIEF ARRESTED. Bill Mattice alias Brown the noted horse thief has finally been arrested, and is now in Portland jail. When he escaped from Gilead he fired at his pursuers, driving them back. Deputy Marshal Black and Officer Gribben, disguised as sportsmen, went from Portland on Thursday, and after following traces through the woods many miles to and fro, aided by Sheriff Wormell of Bethel, found him in Conway at a farmhouse, and arrested him after a brief struggle and brought him to Portland Friday. He is a desperate fellow, and care will be taken that he does not again escape.

POSTAL CHANGES. A post-office has been established at Mapleton, Aroostook county. The following appointments of postmasters are announced: Edwin Hill, Dover South Mills, Piscataquis county; Otis Brooks, Grafton, Oxford county, in place of John Beattie.

☞Speaker Randall's appointments for committee service were announced Tuesday. Mr. Hale of Maine is placed on the committee on appropriations, Mr. Frye on the committee on the judiciary, Mr. Lindsey on the committee on claims, Mr. Reed on committee on territories, and Mr. Powers on the committee on invalid pensions. Mr. Hale is also on the committee on the library.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. Several teachers from this county left last week for the South to take charge of the Friends' Freedman schools. A. H. Jones and family of China were among the number.——Albert H. Black of Sidney, had the misfortune to break his leg in two places, one above and the other below the knee, as he was handling stone in his field, Monday.——The Reformers of Litchfield, held their second Union meeting at the Free Baptist Church on Litchfield Plains, Sunday, Oct. 21st. The meeting was well attended, and ably addressed by J. W. Robinson and Samuel Goodwin of Litchfield, and A. K. P. Buffum, Levi Goodwin of Gardiner, Benjamin Pease of Monmouth. The speaking was interspersed by good music from the Litchfield Plains choir. After the speaking closed a union organization was effected, with the following officers: President, Melvin Tibbetts; Vice Presidents, J. W. Starbird, Gardiner Roberts, jr., C. A. Metcalf; Secretary, M. S. H. Rogers.——Recently a barrel of sugar was seized at Readfield by Sheriff Carr and found to be filled with bottled ale. The goods were claimed by a prominent citizen of Mt. Vernon as his property, and for his own personal use, and an action was brought before Trial Justice Craig of Readfield, against the officer to recover pay for the property, and a verdict rendered for the claimant. Mr. Carr took an appeal to the Supreme Court, and the matter is to be decided at the present term. As every sheriff and deputy in Maine is interested, the decision will be looked for with interest.——The East Winthrop Baptist church and society are enlarging their parsonage, and also building a stable for the benefit of the place and to accommodate Rev. A. R. Crane of Hallowell, who is moving to that place, having become the pastor.——The North Belgrade Reform Club warns the public against one Luthur Jones, a school-house preacher, who has been soliciting funds for that club. The money he collects he refuses to pay over to the club.——The paper mills of Gardiner contemplate putting in new water wheels.——The North Belgrade Reform Club has erected a building for their use and will dedicate it in a few weeks.——The following real estate changes are reported in Winthrop:—Mr. Cook has sold his farm, the old Wood homestead in the westerly part of the town, to W. H. Keith of West Auburn, a former shoe manufacturer, for $4,800. Mr. Glynn has sold his farm to a Fairfield gentleman, and removes to Illinois. Mrs. Wilbur bas sold her interest in the old homestead to W. H. Wilbur, and is about to remove to Hallowell. Mr. J. R. Nelson has sold his fine farm to a Mr. Leadbetter of New York.——The Kennebec Fibre Co.'s factory at Benton on the Sebasticook river, was burned one night last week while the night hands were at work. The origin of the fire is unknown, but is supposed to be the explosion of a lamp, as the flames extended through the mill with such rapidity that the men were unable to reach the fire-hydrants or save their clothes. Loss on the mill and boiler-house $24,000, including the machinery. Loss on the stock $4,000; insurance on the building $12,000; on the stock $20,000—divided between ten companies.——The closing exercises of the fall term at Oak Grove Seminary in Vassalboro, will take place at the Seminary, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 1 and 2. The prize declamations will come off on Thursday evening.——Morrill & Gordon, Readfield, have purchased a Hoadly portable steam engine, and a Holmes & Blanchard set of stones and corn cracker, in order to manufacture their own meal. The engine is of fifteen horse power. They are now able to grind twenty bushels of corn in an hour. They have also built an elevator with which they can store 2500 bushels of grain. Their building is situated by the side of the track, which enables them to unload from the car.——Geo. Gifford, of Vassalboro, has returned from his European trip in good health.

MARINE NOTES. The schooner Leoness, Capt. Achorn, of Rockland, reported as missing, arrived at Alexandria, Va., Friday with loss of sail and fore rigging. She was loaded with phosphate from Charleston for Alexandria. She had been out 28 days.

Schoooner Arcturus, from Bangor for Boston with lumber, is at Saco Ferry, having lost mainmast to the deck and most of the foremast. Part of the cargo is already discharged, and all will probably be reshipped.

Launched at Bath Friday, by Brown & Stantial a schooner of 433 tons named Mary J. Castner. Owners Johnathan Way, Philadelphia and Capt. John Meaher, her commander.

Successfully launched at Bowdoinham Wednesday week, the fine ship Sea King, 1500 tons burthen, built and owned by Geo. Theobold and others of Richmond. She is destined for the carrying trade. Capt. Benj. Adams of Bowdoinham will command her.

Goss & Sawyer launched at Bath Friday the fine ship of 1684 tons named Florence, owned by Chas. Davenport, John Patten & Son, George P. Davenport, Francis Kelly and Capt. John. R. Kelly of Bath, who commands her, and Chas. E. Moody of Boston.

ACCIDENT IN SCARBORO. Capt. Richard Hartley was riding from Portland to his home in Saco, Wednesday week accompanied by three ladies, and when about a mile from Dustan's Corner, near the house of G. H. Boothby, the horse became frightened at an encampment of gypsies by the road side and ran away. The carriage was overturned and its occupants thrown to the ground. Captain Hartley was taken up insensible and after a while was restored to consciousness so as to be taken to his home in Saco. No bones were broken and his injuries are not serious. The carriage was demolished and one of his valuable horses injured. The inhuman gypsies refused to render any assistance to the injured man, but hurried away from the place as rapidly as possible.

A LOTTERY SWINDLE. The N. Y. *Sun* has received letters calling its attention to the fact that F. W. Andrews & Company of St. Stephen, N. B., are flooding the United States with circulars advocating a lottery swindle. The concern offers to insure a prize to persons who will purchase tickets. The circular is a printed fac-simile of manuscript, and is accompanied by a ticket, and the recipient is expected to fancy that it was written and mailed for his special benefit. The circulars are mailed in the British Possessions, and the Canadian post-office department will endeavor to stop the swindle.

☞The *Argus* says that on Tuesday, the 16th instant, Charles Callahan, alias Jerry Carroll, a fellow 28 years old, who has been doing farm work at Otisfield the past summer, came to the office of the Portland Packing Company of Portland, and told the cashier that he was Mr. W. W. Chute, of Otisfield, and wanted $306.25 in payment for corn he had furnished the company's factory at Casco. The money was paid over, and the fraud was not known until the real Mr. Chute a day or two later put in an appearance for his money. Callahan has since been arrested, but had got through with nearly all the money.

☞The wife of Gilman the New York Forger, was a Miss Perkins and a niece of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. The Brunswick *Telegraph* says that at one time she lived with her aunt in Brunswick, where she was well known and is kindly remembered. Gilman was at first sent to Sing Sing, where he was made Assistant bookkeeper, but on Saturday he was transferred to Auburn prison.

BY THE PRESIDENT.

A PROCLAMATION.

The completed circle of summer and winter, seed time and harvest, has brought us to the accustomed season at which a religious people celebrates with praise and thanksgiving the enduring mercy of Almighty God. This devout and public confession of the constant dependence of man upon the Divine Father for all the good gifts of life and health, and peace and happiness, so early in our history, made the habit of our people, finds in the survey of the past year new grounds for its joyful and grateful manifestations. In all blessings which depend upon the benignant seasons, this has indeed been a memorable year. Over the wide territory of our country, with all its diversity of soil and climate and products, the earth has yielded a bountiful return to the husbandman. The health of the people has been blighted by no prev alent or widespread diseases, no great disasters of shipwreck upon our coast or to our commerce on the sea have brought loss and hardships to merchants or marines, and clouded the happiness of the community with sympathetic sorrow.

In all that concerns our strength and peace and greatness as a nation, in all that touches the permanence and security of our government and the beneficent institutions on which it rest, in all that affects the character and disposition of our people, and tests our capacity to enjoy and uphold the equal and free condition of society now permanent and universal throughout the land, the experience of the last year is conspicuously marked by the protecting providence of God, and is full of promise and hope for the coming generations.

Under a sense of these infinite obligations to the Great Ruler of times and seasons and events, let us humbly ascribe it to our own faults and frailities, if in any degree that perfect concord and happiness, peace and justice which such great mercies should diffuse through the hearts and lives of our people do not altogether and always and everywhere prevail. Let us with one spirit and one voice lift up praise and thanksgiving to God for His manifold goodness to our land, His manifest care for the nation.

Now, therefore, I, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States, do appoint Thursday, the 29th day of November next, as a day of national thanksgiving and prayer, and I earnestly recommend that in withdrawing themselves from secular cares and labors the people of the United States do meet together on that day in their respective places of worship, there to give thanks and praise to the Almighty God for his mercies, and to devoutly beseech their continuance In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this 29th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, and of the independence of United States the one hundred and second.

R. B. HAYES.

By the President.
WILLIAM M. EVARTS,
Secretary of State.

THE WAR. The defeat of the Turks and establishment of a strong Russian force west of Plevna, looks like the beginning of a serious attempt to shut Ghazi Osman in his line and submit Plevna to a regular siege. Ghourko's movement seems to have been part of a concerted plan. A portion of infantry of the imperial guard crossed between Nikopolis and Plevna, passing around Osman's left. Ghourko's cavalry crossed the upper end west of Lovatz, swept the Orchanie road, got in communication with a force coming from the north and made a combined attack on the Turks who were commanded by Hifzi Pasha, the same who took the first convoy into Plevna. Simultaneously with this attack a heavy cannonade was opened along the entire line on East Plevna, and a demonstration was made to give the impression of an intention to assault.

Hiltz Pasha is reported captured with a large part of his command. The impression prevails that since the recent rains the Russians, convinced of the impossibility of wintering in Bulgaria, will make a desperate effort to effect a reduction of Plevna and defeat Sulieman Pasha's army before retirement into Roumania becomes necessary. Russia would then stand a better position should diplomacy intervene during the cessation of operations. The proposed mediation on the part of England as stated in our foreign news, is a pretty sure indication that the Turks are getting badly worsted. England is very quiet when the Turks are successful.

WAS IT THE SEA SERPENT? The Portland Press says that Capt. Ingalls of schooner Caledonia saw a strange looking creature last Saturday off Seguin at the mouth of the Kennebec, which might be the notorious sea serpent. He thinks the creature was fully eighty feet long, and says in fifteen years' experience as a fisherman he has seen all kinds of strange fish, but nothing like this. This animal was steering east at a slow rate of speed and showed no inclination to go out of his course to avoid the vessel. At one time the captain says he was within one hundred feet of the creature, and if he had been equipped could have captured it. The head was long and quite sharp, and of a black color. On the back there were several large white spots which looked very peculiar. A few feet behind the head were flippers or wings, about twenty feet in length. He would dive out of sight but quickly appear again on the surface and flap his flippers in such a terrific manner that Capt. Ingals compared the noise to the report caused by the discharge of a canon.

A WOMAN'S SACRIFICE FOR PIO NONO. The Marquis de Surge, a zealous Roman Catholic, has published a book in which he tells a number of things concerning the Pope. One of them is that in 1866, the Pope being seriously ill, a young lady of Marseilles, named Leautard, resolved to offer up her life in his place, and asked his permission to do so. After some thought the Pope told her to go and do what the Spirit of God suggested to her. The next day she partook of the Sacrament, expressed the desire of her heart fervently, was seized with a sharp pain, and in three days was dead. On learning of her death Pio Nono exclaimed, "So soon accepted." The Marquis professes his belief that this sacrifice made in his behalf accounts for the Pope's long life.

☞The *Patriot* says that the regular meeting of the P. E. Island Medical Society was held in Charlottetown, on the 10th inst. The President, Dr. Johnstone in the chair. Matters of interest and importance were brought before the meeting, such as providing for the poor and unfortunate who need medical and surgical treatment. It was shown that medical men are unpaid as well as unsafe in treating such persons, as our laws at present exist. It was agreed to, as the opinion of those present, that the present asylum building should be turned into a public hospital for the accommodation of such patients and supported by the public—a step imperatively demanded by the wants of the afflicted poor, in town and country, who are at present either uncared for or depend on the kindness of friends and relatives or public charity.

☞Tweed continues to furnish interesting reading for the newspapers. The New York Herald published a five column article, as the result of one interview with him. He says that Tilden has grown rich by tiring other people out by putting off everything. He was a railroad smasher, and, if he wanted to capture railroad stock he would figure it out so that no dividends would be paid, and then purchase the stock. His wealth caused his nomination at St. Louis. Tweed says that Jay Gould has not his equal in America, as a financier. Tweed regards John Kelly as the most successful city politician of New York that he has known. Tweed says that New York politics were dishonest long before his time. To reorganize the city and start it afresh, he says he would adopt the civil service policy which alone can straighten out the abuses of patronage.

Items of Maine News.

The *Hancock Citizen* has suspended.

Mr. Clark, of the *Androscoggin Herald*, is about to start a daily paper in Auburn.

More lumber will be cut on Aroostook rivers this winter than for many years.

According to the *Sentinel* the rum traffic is gaining ground in Eastport daily.

Chas. O. Turner, formerly of Leeds, died in San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 13, aged 51.

John D. Garland's house in Garland, was burned Saturday night. Insurance $400.

A bed of copperas has been found beneath the iron ore at the Katahdin Iron Works.

Edwin Perry, son of Hon. J. J. Perry of Portland, succeeds Byram as critic of the Boston *Herald*.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Doe of Fairfield, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage last week.

The house, barn and shop of J. F. Brown at Island Falls, were burned last week. Loss $2000; insurance $1000.

An emigrant train consisting of several families passed through North Anson Monday on its way to Aroostook county.

John D. Littlefield, Norridgewock blacksmith, fell in an apoplectic fit while shoeing a horse the other day and died instantly.

Mrs. E. S. Getchell, formerly of Augusta, has has written an opera bouffe, in three acts entitled "Urlina, the African Princess."

Charles Callahan alias Jerry Carroll, of Boston, was arrested in Pawtucket Friday on a charge of swindling in Portland, Me.

Fred K. Simpson of Belfast, aged 17, was fatally shot Sunday afternoon, by the accidental discharge of a gun which he was loading.

Prof. Hitchcock of Dartmouth College, has a crystal of beryl in his possession, which came from Grafton, Me. It weighs 1000 pounds.

A man by the name of McBride was found dead on the Little road near Calais Saturday night, having fallen from his wagon while intoxicated and broken his neck.

The eldest daughter of Rev. L. E. Grant of Buxton was attacked by a vicious horse Monday, knocked down and trampled upon. Her injuries are severe.

The town house at Milford was totally destroyed by fire recently. As there had been no fire in the building for some time it must have been the work of an incendiary.

The house of Capt. Charles Reed at Boothbay Harbor was destroyed by fire Thursday night, with a portion of the furniture. Loss $1000;

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 31.

Arrivals of stock at market—Cattle 2688; Sheep and Lambs 4906; Swine 9360; Western Cattle 1944; Eastern Cattle 361; Milch Cows and Northern Cattle 375.

Price of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs, live weight—Extra quality 6 25@6 50; first quality 6 00@6 12½; second quality $5 75@5 25; third quality $4 62½@5 12½; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., 5 50@4 50.

Brighton Hides 8c per lb; Brighton Tallow 6a6½c per lb. Country Hides 7@7½c per lb; Country Tallow 5i4@6c per lb. Calf Skins 10@11c per lb; sheared Sheep Skins 1 00@75c; Lamb skins 1 00 a 75c each.

The supply of Cattle from the West for the past week has been light, and the quality upon an average full as good as that of one week ago. There were but a few Texas or Colorados among them. The trade for Beef Cattle opened rather dull, and country butchers are buying sparingly. They say that their customers are eating more Poultry, Pork, &c., than Beef at the present time. Prices upon all grades have fallen off fully 4c per lb. from those of our last quotations, there being but a few lots of Cattle selling at our highest quotations.

Working Oxen—The trade for workers opened dull and drovers say that they cannot obtain home prices for them here. We quote sales of 1 pr, girth 6 ft 6 in, live weight 2600 lbs at $200; 1 pr, girth 6 ft 5 in, live weight 2800 lbs, $114; 1 pr, girth 6 ft. 8 in, live weight 2800 lbs, $115; 1 pr, girth 6 ft 8 in, live weight 2700 lbs, $125.

Milch Cows—Prices do not vary much from week to week. Good Cows usually command fair prices and a ready sales, prices ranging from $25a,00 per head.

Store Cattle—Yearlings $11a$15; two year olds $16a28; three year olds $23a$45 ₰ head. Many of the small Cattle that are in a fair condition are sold for Beef.

Sheep and Lambs—All the Sheep brought into market for the past week were consigned to G. W. Hollis and taken to the Abattoir to be slaughtered. There were none from the West.

Swine—Store Pigs, wholesale 5 1-2a6c per lb; retail 6 1-2a7c per lb. Fat Hogs 9,260; prices 5 1-2 a 5 3-4c per lb.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Oct. 31.

Flour and Grain—The market for Flour is quiet and in prices no change; holders are not disposed to submit to concessions, and jobbers are puchasing only for immediate wants; the sales have been at $4 50a5 for Wisconsin superfine; $5 50a6 25 for common extras; and $6 50a7 25 per bbl for Minnesota extras, including choice bakers' brands. Southern Flour is quiet at $7a8 75 per bbl for medium and choice family; patent Wisconsin and Minnesota brands are selling at $8 25a 9 50 per bbl. Corn is not quite so firm; sales of No mixed have been made for as low as 55½c, but for most part mixed and yellow is from 56a60c per bush. Oats are firm and fair demand, with sales at 42½a48c per bush for No 1 and extra white; 38½a39c for No 2 white and No 1 mixed; and 36a37c for No 2 white and No 2 mixed. In Rye the sales have been small at 80c per bush. Shorts have been selling at $19a20; and Fine and Middlings at $21a23 per ton.

Provisions—Pork is firm; sales at $10@11 00 for prime; $14 75@14 50 for mess; $16 00@17 00 ₰ bbl for clear. Beef ranges from $13 00@14 00 mess and extra mess, and $14 50@15 50@20 for family. Lard 9¼ a10c ₰ lb. for city and Western. Smoked Hams 11@12c ₰ lb. Butter sells at 15a33c ₰ lb. and Cheese from 10@14c ₰ lb. for common and prime.

Produce. White Beans are firmer and have been in better demand. Sales of good and choice medium at $2 15 a 2 20; Pea at $2 25 a 2 27½; and Yellow Eyes at $2 15 ₰ bushel. Eggs are quite firm and have been in demand, with sales at 24 a 25 ₰ dozen for Eastern and Northern. Potatoes have been in fair demand, with sales at 50 a 58 ₰ bushel for Early Rose, Jackson Whites and other kinds. Green Apples have been arriving quite freely and prices are not quite so firm. The sales have been at $2 50 a 3 75 ₰ bbl, as to quality. Onions are plenty and dull and have been selling at $1 50 a 1 75 ₰ bbl. Cranberries range from $5 a 7 ₰ bbl as to quality. Poultry has been arriving more freely, and sales at 14 a 16c ₰ lb for Chickens and Turkeys.

Hay. The arrivals of Hay have been large and late prices are difficult to realize. The sales of coarse Northern and Eastern have been at $16a19 per ton; and fine and medium grades from $14a17 per ton. Rye Straw is in good demand with sales at $30a36 per ton.

Hops. There is a better feeling for Hops, with an increased demand and sales at 9a10c per lb.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, Oct. 31.

The market for Wool remains about the same. There has been a fair business doing in domestic, but prices continue to rule low, and unsatisfactory, and sales can only be made at concessions. Fine fleeces are neglected and in neighboring markets very low prices have been taken. The most desirable lots here are held above the views of buyers. The sales here have been 125,000 lbs Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces at 44½ a 47c for medium X and XX; 174,000 lbs Michigan Wisconsin and other fleeces at 36 a 38c for common, and 40 a 45c for good and choice; 75,000 lbs combing and delaine fleeces at 47 a 50c, mostly in the range of 50 a 55c per lb for fine and medium grades; 125,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 21 a 52c; 35,000 lbs scoured at 44 a 75c; 750,000 lbs California at 22½ a 35½c for spring, and 17 a 37c for fall; 100,000 lbs mostly at 35 pullet at 30 a 40c; and 30,000 lbs sundries at various prices as to quality.

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Oct. 31.

Money was active at 7a6 per cent on call.
Gold opened at 102¾ and closed at 102¾.

United States Sixes (coupons), 1881,		110¾
" " 5-20's, 1865,		105½
" " 1865, (new)		105½
" " 1867,		107¼
" " 1868,		109¼
" " New 5's,		106¼
" " 10.40's (coupons),		108¼
" " Currency 6's,		121 .

Augusta City Market.

THURSDAY, Nov. 1.

Apples—All the apples sold by the barrel in our city market are western grown, and are held a $4 00 a 50 per bbl; dried apple, cored 7a8c; sliced 10a12c.

Beans—Pea $2 50a3 00; yellow eyes $2 00a2 50.

Butter—Choice June and Septeumber make 25a 28c; what is known as butter 20a22c.

Flour—Continues as during the past few weeks the various grades being now sold at $7 50a9 50 per bbl.

Flour—Continues as during the past few weeks the various grades being now sold at $7 50a9 50 per bbl.

Grain—Corn 70c; oats 45a50c.

Hay—Some loads of loose have been sold the past week for $13 per ton; although the asking price is about $15.

Honey—Choice box honey, 25a30c per ₰.

Hides and skins—Hides 6a6½c; calf skins 12½c; lamb skins 50ca$75; deacons 25a35c; shearlings 20 a25c.

Lime and cement—$1 per cask for lime, $2 for cement.

Native cranberries—$3 00 per bush.

Meal—Corn 70c; rye $1 00.

Produce—Potatoes 40c; eggs 22a24c; lard 14c.

Provisions—Clear salt pork, $10 00 per 100 lbs; round hogs $7 00; best per side, 7a10c per lb; ham 12a15c; fowls 10a12c.

Shorts—$1 50 per one hundred lbs.

Seeds—Herdsgrass $2 50a3 00; red top $1; Orchard grass $3; Maine clover 20 ₰ New York clover 18c; alsike clover 30c.

Wool—Little has been doing in our city market although prices remain virtually unchanged, viz: washed 40c; unwashed 30c; medium to fine.

Wood—Mill wood, delivered, $3a2 25 per cord. Hard wood $5a6 per cord.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 31.

Apples—$3 00a4 50 per bbl. Dried 9a10c per lb

Butter—23a28c for family; store, 15a18c per lb.

Beans—Pea $2 37a2 50; yellow eyes $2 25a2 12½.

Cheese—Maine and Vermont factory 14a12c.

Fish—Large shore $4 62½a4 75; large bank $4 75a 4 25; small $3 25a3 75; pollock $1 50a1 87; haddock $2 25a2 00; herring $4 00a4 50 per bbl; scaled 22a23c per box; smoked per bbl—bay No. 2 to No. 1, $10 00 a18 00; shore Nos. 1 and 2, $7 00a18 00.

Flour—Superfine $5 00a5 50; spring X and XX $6 2 a7 50; Michigan winter X and XX $7 00a7 75; patent spring wheat $ 25a10 00; St. Louis X and XX $7 25 a8 75.

Grain—Corn 67a—c; bag lots 70a72c per bush; oats 40a45; fine feed 34a35 per cwt; shorts 20a21 per ton.

Hay—Loose $14a17 per ton; pressed $14 00a16 00; straw $12a9 per ton.

Lard—Per tierce 9¾a10c per lb; per keg 10¼a10; pail 11a12½.

Plaster—Rock per ton $2 00; ground in bbls $1 15; calcined in bbs $2 25@2 50.

Produce.—Beef side 10@9; veal 6a8c, mutton 7a 8c; chickens 15a18c; turkeys 20a25c; eggs 23a25c; potatoes 80a45c;

Provisions—Chicago extra beef 14 50a15 00; pork backs $19 00a1 925; clear $17 75a18 00; mess $15a16; hams 12a11c per lb; round hogs 8a7c].

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 31.

Beans—Yellow eyes $1 75a2 00 per bush; pea $2 25 2 00.

Butter—18a22c per lb.

Eggs—21a22c per doz.

Hay—$10a14 per ton; pressed $12a15.

Grain—Oats 40a42c per bush; corn 67a69c.

Potatoes—40a40 per bush.

Provisions—Pork 16a20 per bbl; round hog 6a7c per lb; fresh beef per side 5a9c mutton and lambs 7 a8c.

Hides and Skins—Pelts $1 00 each; hide 7c per lb; veal skin 12½c per lb.

Wool—Fleece wool 27a37c per lb.

☞Mr. Payson's novels is proving a great success, winning words of praise at all hands. The Boston Journal says:

It opens in a catching manner, the initial chapter giving a very good pen-and-ink picture of a New England village, of the old-fashioned kind, and its people. The story is well written, with a cleverly conceived and developed plot, and a denouement which will be fully satisfactory to readers who enjoy having their hero come out all right at the end of the book. The author displays a close acquaintance with country people and country living, and makes his characters talk in a style that is animated and entertaining.

☞Secretary Schurz contends that the Sitting Bull Commission was in no respect a failure, and that the result attained was the exact result desired. The United States is perfectly willing to have the chief stay in Canada, and sent the commission, not to get him back, but to satisfy the Canadian authorities. The latter have told Sitting Bull that he must remain peaceful and not make hostile inroads into the United States.

☞Lawlessness is reported in an Ohio town. Daniel Pitman, a leading lawyer of Palestine was recently assassinated, a number of women have been assaulted, and Thursday Wesley Guyer was shot dead at his home in the suburbs. The entire country is in an uproar.

☞A dispatch from San Antonio, Texas, dated the 26:h says: "a large band of Mexican raiders are reported depredating thirty miles west of here. A stage driver, between Fort Stockton and El Paso is reported killed. The rangers are organizing for defence."

☞Another incendiary fire in Fredericktown, N. B, Tuesday, destroyed property to the amount of $30,000. A person was arrested suspected of setting the fire and there was a strong disposition manifested to lynch him.

☞A great charm of the Raven Paste Stove Polish to ladies is that it requires no brush, thereby avoiding dust, smell and labor. Sold everywhere. 4449.

Congressional Summary.

THURSDAY, Oct. 25.

Mr. Conkling presented a petition of citizens of New York against the repeal of the Bankrupt law, praying for it to be amended. Referred.

Mr. Mitchell submitted a resolution authorizing the Committee on Elections in examining the cases of Kellogg and Spofford to send for persons and papers and administer oaths.

Mr. Kernan, by request, introduced a bill re-establishing the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims and the distribution of unappropriated money of the Geneva Award; he also introduced by request a bill to provide for the further disbursement of money received under the Geneva Award. Referred.

The Vice President presented a communication from the Secretary of the Interior in answer to the Senate resolution of the 22d inst., enclosing a copy of the report of the Government Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad Company for the year ending June 30, 1877. Referred to the Committee on Railroads.

Mr. Plumb introduced a bill prohibiting gambling in the army under a penalty of dismissal.

A number of unimportant bills were introduced, and the Senate at 12.25 adjourned till Monday next.

House. The consideration of the Colorado case was resumed. Wells of Texas, made a speech, and the conclusion which he reached was that neither Belford nor Patterson present a prima facie case and the seat should be declared vacant.

The debate continued until three o'clock when a vote was taken on the resolution offered by Harris, of Va., referring the papers in the case to the Committee on Elections, and it was carried by a party vote, yeas 137, nays 130.

Among other papers presented to the House by the Speaker was one from Missouri for the removal of the National Capital. The reading of its title was greeted with derisive laughter.

Mr. Garfield of Ohio said he had received a petition of such a peculiar character that he desired to present it and have it spread upon the record. It was a petition of 210 men of color asking assistance from Congress to enable them to go to Liberia, making it their permanent home, and saying that a very large movement of that sort was going on among them. The petition was read and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, together with a letter from Rev. Dr. Sampson. It sets out the difficulty under which the colored people labor in sustaining families in the face of competition from white labor, and asks that an allowance of $100 each be made to emigrants to Liberia under the auspices of the Colonization Society.

The House at 4.10 adjourned until Monday.

MONDAY, Oct. 29.

Senate. During the morning hour among the bills introduced and referred were the following:

By Ingalls to fix the date of meeting of the first regular session of forty-fifth Congress upon Nov. 1st.

By Hereford, providing for coinage of silver dollars and making the same a legal tender.

By Saunders of Neb., to establish the territory of Lincoln, and provide temporary government therefor.

By Mr. Paddock, giving Nebraska an additional representative in Congress, from and after the 4th of March last.

House. Hewitt of New York, was sworn in. Several bills were introduced, as follows:

By Frye, to revive and continue the court of Alabama claims.

By Butler, repealing sections of the revised statutes embodying the tenure of civil service.

By Phelps, to repeal tax on deposits in savings institutions.

By Cannon of Utah, for the admission of Utah as a State.

By Vance, to amend the pension law for soldiers of 1812; also sholishing the 10 per cent. tax on the circulation of national banks, and to enforce a uniform rate of interest.

By Davis of N. C. to refund money to the State of North Carolina; also to repeal the laws forbidding the payment of claims to persons who were not loyal.

TESDAY, Oct. 30.

Senate. A large number of bills were introduced and referred.

Edmunds submitted a resolution authorizing the presiding officer of the Senate to appoint the select committees authorized by resolution on the 22d inst., on the subject of ascertaining and declaring the result of elections for president and vice president.

At 12.15 on motion of Hamlin went into executive.

House not in session.

The Mormons. The Mormon leaders are well aware that the death of Brigham Young is likely to have a most important effect on the future of the Church of the Latter Day Saints, and that to save it from dissolution in the near future, it is necessary to introduce reforms which he would have laughed at and make concessions to its misguided members which he would have scorned to yield. These tactics were pursued to some extent at the late conference, and it is hardly to be wondered at that there is something like a reawakening of the fast expiring faith in the superstitions and mummeries of Mormonism. The change is the strongest symptom of the decline and fall of the whole fabric of fraud and ignorance. Reform, perhaps, delays the end, but it makes the end certain.

☞The battle fields about Richmond and Petersburg have been already mostly reclaimed by nature, and at Cold Harbor, Fair Oaks, Seven Pines and Malvern Hill, scarcely any traces of fight are seen. Below Petersburg there are few traces even of such formidable fortifications as Steadman, Hell and Damnation. The Crater and the fields around it are owned by Mr. Griffiths, who has built a house near the Crater, which has been left almost untouched, and a thick underbrush of peach trees and sprouts have sprung up from the pits thrown up by the soldiers during the siege. The ravine where the dead lay in great heaps on that terrible morning has been brought under the plow year after year, until now only a slight depression in the field can be pointed out. The visitor has to pay 25 cents for a glimpse of the Crater and the interior of a shed stocked with battle relics.

☞The valuation of property in Massachusetts during the past year, according to reports at the office of the Secretary of State, has declined to the amount of $101,-082,773, as follows: on real estate, $70,643,-098; on personal, $30,439,675. The loss last year was $70,943,146, and it was the first time for many years that the depreciation had been so marked. Indeed, from 1871 to 1875 the increase was three hundred and forty-four millions of dollars, The advance in 1872 from the previous year was nearly two hundred millions.

As about two-thirds of the total depreciation is to be credited to Boston, it is indicative that the larger centres of trade and the most populous cities will as a rule show a larger percentage of loss than the smaller towns where inflation had a weaker hold. The loss on personal last year was about twenty-two millions, which has increased to thirty, an evidence of the continued depression in business.

☞A despatch from Indianapolis, dated Tuesday, says the family of Senator Morton have settled down into the belief that his death is a mere matter of a few days. His son Ollie, now at Yale, has been summoned home, and other relatives are arriving. His house is besieged with callers, and the mail burdened with letters from all parts of the country, asking about him. Extreme solicitude is manifested by all, and at the Presbyterian ministers' meeting his case was made the subject of special prayer. It is said that Dan Voorhees will be his successor in the United States Senate.

☞The French minister again notifies the American government that according to the regulations, foreign exhibitors cannot be admitted to the exhibition of 1878, except through the intervention of a special delegate officially designated by their government and accredited to the French Commissioner General. The State Department will take no step in the matter in anticipation of the action of Congress.

Tannin Extract. The new tannin factory at East Machias is completed and is now in operation. Up to the present time the amount of money paid out for sweet fern is $4,000, which has generally gone among the poorer classes.

The fern is housed in sheds winged off from the main building and easily moved when wanted, to the hopper of the cutter. This is the first step—place the fern in a cutter, a machine something like a hay cutter. This cut is quite fine. It worked to its capacity the machine will cut one and a half tons per hour.

Two tan burners are constructed in the basement. The spent fern, woody, fibrous parts are accumulated here and used in the furnaces to heat the water and building. This waste material is expected to furnish all the fuel required after well in operation. The main shed for storage of fern is twenty-five feet long and fourteen feet high. Besides there are three other sheds thirty-five feet wide, one hundred and ten feet long and sixteen feet high.

From the cutter the chopped fern passes into elevator cups, thence it is raised to the fourth floor of the building. The cups are constructed quite like the cups in a grist or flour mill, whereby the meal is raised to the upper floor. On the fourth floor are four leaches; being tanks made round and holding ten thousand gallons each. The chopped fern is deposited in these leaches from the elevator cups. Near by are two reservoirs. When in operation these reservoirs are filled with hot water. They hold 3,250 gallons each. The hot water by means of a pump is sprinkled on to the fern in the leaches. This is the leaching process or second step in the extraction operation. The hot water and the steam is all passed through brass pipes or tubes, no iron being used.

After steeping as long as necessary the liquor is passed from the leaches to four store tanks. These tanks hold about 2,700 gallons each. In these tanks, which are on the third floor, the liquor is allowed to settle. Next it is passed to three condensers on the second floor. The condensers are semi-circular in form, 7 1-2 by 10 feet inside, and supplied with 200 feet of brass pipe, each one. The second condenser is higher than the first, and the third higher than the second. An immense heat is forced into the liquor in the condensers by means of pipes. A revoving shaft with discs 20 feet in diameter is kept constantly in motion, stirring and agitating liquor. A cloud of steam and vapor is constantly arising, seeking to escape through the ventilator at the top of the factory. This process is evaporation. When concluded only the pure and best tannin extract remains.

Great vigilance and superintendance are needed at the condensers. The extract must not be scorched or burned. A faithful superintendent is needed here. When the tannin is reduced to proper consistency it is passed from the condensers into coolers. When cooled it is drawn off into barrels. The barrels hold 48 to 50 gallons each, or about 500 pounds to the barrel. The extract is now ready for shipment. After the first few days running, the weaker liquor is returned to the leaches. This serves a better purpose in extracting juice from the fern than clear water. The weaker liquor is held in reserve after the stronger is drawn from the tanks, the former being kept in two tanks of 3,200 gallons each; thence it is forced to the leaches. The exhausted steam from the boiler of the driving engine in the basement is forced to do different duties, some of it reaching the leaches on the fourth floor. The principle of "no waste" is strictly adhered to in all arrangements, position and construction of machinery.

One engine of thirty horse-power is the principal motive power. An engine of seven-horse power is used to operate the condensers. The boilers are fed from the hot water tanks. The combination of power equals eighty-five horse-power. Water is pumped from the river, a distance of 125 feet, through pipe two and one-half inches in diameter. In the basement are two furnaces, six by sixteen feet, four feet high, two feet thickness of brick bottom, sides and top; inside all fire brick and in best possible manner.

The enterprise is a commendable one. Nearly all the capital is furnished by citizens of East Machias. Any profits ultimately, which we hope will be abundant, will be their gain. Already the results are felt for good. Cash paid for sweet fern, for labor, timber and material, has been a blessing to the community.

At no time since the inception of the movement have the stockholders felt so well encouraged and so hopeful of remuneration as they do at this time. The evidence of demand for the tannin extract, also as to the supply of sweet fern, is increasing, convincing and satisfactory. There is no establishment in the country like this, considered in its convenience, capacity, entirety and completeness. The factory will probably consume fifteen tons per day of sweet fern.

☞John Adams, of Boston, has just celebrated his golden wedding at the age of 81. he was captured at sea by the Guerrier in 1812, retaken by the Constitution; then was with letter of marque vessel that took an English schooner who was captured by an English privateer in her turn, and spent some time in several English hulks and prison ships, witnessing the massacre of American prisoners at Dartmoor.

☞Take the whole catalogue of medicine, and you cannot find a preparation that cures Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Disease, as well as HUNT'S REMEDY. Diabetes Suppression and Incontinence of Urine, Pains in the side, Back, and Loins, and Bright's Disease, are cured by HUNT'S REMEDY. Gravel, Dropsy, and all Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs, are cured by HUNT'S REMEDY.

Clarke's Tooth-ache Drops cure instantly.

☞If a gentleman cannot do without his morning paper, no more can a lady do without her fashion journal. If the one is a matter of news to him, the other is not only that to her, but a practical economy in time and money. "Andrew's Bazar" is more than entertaining—it is useful, as ladies alone can appreciate. Send ten cents for sample copy to W. R. Andrew's, Ciucinnati.

Renovation, not Prostration.

Did any enfeebled human being ever become strong under the operation of powerful cathartics or salivants? It is sometimes necessary to regulate the bowels, but that cannot be done by active purgation, which exhausts the vital forces and serves no good purpose whatever. The only true way to promote health and vigor, which are essential to regularity of the organic functions, is to invigorate, discipline and purify the system at the same time. The extraordinary efficacy of Hostetters Stomach Bitters in cases of debility or irregularity of the organs of digestion, assimilation, secretion and discharge, is universally admitted. Appetite, good digestion, a regular habit of body, active circulation of the blood, and purity of all the animal fluids are induced by this superb tonic and corrective. It has no equals, moreover, as a preventive of chills and fever, and other types of malarial disease. To emigrants and travelers it is particularly serviceable as a medicinal safeguard. 1m49

Foreign News.

France.

Paris, Oct. 25. The Moniteur declares that the President has at no time contemplated a resort to a plebiscite.

Paris, Oct. 26. The Figaro announces that at a cabinet council yesterday a draft of the message from President McMahon to be delivered at the opening of the Deputies was approved. It is very firm in tone.

London, Oct. 29. Later intelligence from Paris shows fifteen second ballots held yesterday, resulted in the election of eleven conservatives and four republicans. By this result the chamber stands 320 republicans, 210 conservatives.

Paris, Oct. 25. Gen. Grant and family visited Elysee this afternoon and were received by the Marshal and Madame McMahon, the latter acting as interpretor. The interview was entirely informal and cordial. President McMahon extended, and Gen. Grant accepted an invitation to dinner Thursday.

Spain.

New York, Oct. 29. The marriage of King Alfonse to Princess Mercedes is to take place the 23d of January next.

Italy.

London, Oct. 25. Several despatches from Rome assert that the General of the Jesuits, by the Pope's order, has expelled from the society father Cruel, editor of the Civitia Catholica, who, both as a sacred orator and writer, was heretofore regarded as one of the brightest ornaments of the Jesuit order and Roman church. Father Cruel's offense was maintaining that temporal power was not necessary to the well-being of the church. He said that he intended to publish a full account of his differences with the Vatican, dating from 1871.

Japan.

San Francisco, Oct. 29. Private letters from Japan state that recent secret negotiations between England and Japan, and Russia and Japan embrace the following results: England insists on sharing all Japan's advantages in opening Corea, and Japan refuses to concede to the demand. Russia consents to support Japan's refusal to any extremity, if Japan will waive her claim to a northern port of entry and choose one further south.

The Eastern War.

London, Oct. 25. A despatch from Erzeroum says that the Russians have been repulsed in an attack on Fort Thames. A renewal of the attack is expected.

A despatch from Constantinople says that Mukhtar Pasha telegraphs that he is hopeful of retrieving his former positions.

London, Oct. 27. It is reported that the Russians are pursuing Ghazi Mukhtar, have advanced as far as Khorassan, and that Mukhtar has retreated to Doprikoi, between Khorassan and Hassan Kalch. Erzeroum is preparing for a siege; the inhabitants are arming and reinforcements are hastening up from Trebizond. Mukhtar, however, reports that the Russians have not advanced further than Melidooz, on the western slope of Saghouli Dogh; which is more credible than the first statement. Doubtless a panic prevails at Erzeroum, giving rise to all unfavorable rumors.

Constantinople, Oct. 28. It is officially confirmed that Ismail Pasha with his force of forty battalions, has effected a junction with Mukhtar Pasha. The army is now concentrated in a strong position at Koprokai.

A dispatch from Erzeroum says it is rumored that the Russians from Ardahan are advancing on Olti.

Bucharest, Oct. 29. Yesterday a body of Russians carried the Turkish position at Telische, west of Plevna. One Pasha, several officers and seven companies of Turkish troops were taken prisoners. Three cannon were also captured.

New York, Oct. 29. Turkey prohibits the exportation of grain.

The British Ambassador at St. Petersburg is ordered to confer with Gortschakoff on the question of mediation. The Czar instructed Gortshakoff to prepare for a revision of the Russian constitution.

Constantinople, Oct. 29. Bielewski, a Pole known to the Turkish army as Gen. Nispad. is appointed Sulieman Pasha's chief of staff, and Gen. Mina, a Belgian, to command a cavalry expedition at Rosgrad.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 29. A despatch from Alexandria of the 20th, gives no later information about Kars than that place is completely invested. A despatch says Gen. Terguksoff occupied Bayazid.

Telesche was surrounded the 28th, and bombarded two hours from seventy-two guns, when the Turkish garrison surrendered. There was no assault, and the loss on both sides was insignificant.

London, Oct. 30. The capture of Telicbe indicates the Russians have a firm hold on the Plevna and Sofia road, but is not certain. Plevna is entirely surrounded.

☞We learn that Dr Kinsman has refused a very large sum for the receipe from which the celebrated *Adamson's Balsam*, &c., I will send a receipe that will cure you, Free of Charge. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. Joseph T. Inman. *Station D, Bible House, N. Y.* 1y39

We learn that Dr Kinsman has refused a very large sum for the receipe from which the celebrated *Adamson's Balsam* is made. This is one of the most valuable cough remedies ever placed in the market; its sales are enormous, and not a single failure to cure is reported. Price 25 cents.

By Universal Accord

Ayer's Cathartic Pills are the best of all purgatives for family use. They are the product of long, laborious and successful chemical investigation, and their extensive use, by Physicians in their practice, and by all civilized nations, proves them the best and most effectual purgative Pill that medical science can devise. Being purely vegetable no harm can arise from their use. In intrinsic value and curative powers no other pills can be compared with them, when needed. They keep the system in perfect order, and maintain in healthy action the whole machinery of life. Mild, searching and effectual, they are specially adapted to the needs of the digestive apparatus, derangements of which they prevent and cure, if timely taken. They are the best and safest physic to employ for children and weakened constitutions, where a mild, but effectual, cathartic is required.

For Sale by all Dealers.

Married.

In Augusta, Oct. 26, by Rev. Dr. Quinby, Wm. S. Winslow of Hallowell, to Mrs. Emilie W. Norton; Oct. 21, by Rev. E. T. Adams, Alden P. Wood of Burnham, to Addie Yeaton; Oct. 23, by Rev. H. W. Tilden, Geo. A. Craig to Laura A. Snell; Oct. 3?, by Rev. C. F. Penney, Wm. A. Hoyt of Rome, to May E. Leighton; Oct. 24, by Rev. H. W. Tilden, Hiram Clark to Flora A. Allen; Oct. 27, by Rev. C. F. Pehney, Arthur D. Locke, to Mrs. Mary A. Greenleaf.

In Auburn, Oct. 20, Almon M. Tripp to Catherine A. Clark; Wm. E. Buck to Ada Wyman; Oct. 21, Daniel B. Sanderson to Mrs. Hannah M. Bartlett; Oct. 24, Almon L. Penley to Mary A. Pompilly.

In Alexander, Oct. 14, Geo. B. Berry to Rhoda H. Stephenson.

In Brunswick, Oct. 24, John Whitmore of Bowdoinham, to Mrs. Frances L. Bonholm of Harpswell.

In Bath, Oct. 23, Frank W. Low to Florance E. Holmes; Oct. 25, Edwin S. Sawyer to Fanny M. Bradford.

In Biddeford, Sept. 12, Solon S. Andrews to Alice A. Harmon; Oct. 6, Eugene L. Gordon to Mary Warren.

In Belfast, Oct. 22, Cyrus R. Davis to Mary E. Sleeper; Oct. 24, Wm. L. Littlefield to Carrie I. Hilton; Oct. 20, Geo. B. Flowers to Mrs. Lydia J. Rich of Searsport; Nath'l G. Clifford to Mrs. Sarah E. Rich, both of Stockton; Oct. 21, Alexander N. Grasbary to Eveline B. Painshall; Oct. 11, James W. Patterson to Cora B. Walker.

In Bucksport, Oct. 21, Herman Leach to Nora T. Leach of Penobscot.

In Bangor, Oct. 23, Alfred Webb of Lowell, to Carrie A. Noyes; Oct. 25, John A. Butler of Milwaukee, to Fannie L. Dana.

In Brewer Village, Oct. 20, Cyrus Hall to Abbie B. Nickerson, both of Bangor.

In Boston Highlands, Ma). Chas. G. Davis to Annie M. Sawtelle of Skowhegan.

In Rockland, P. E. I., Oct. 2, Donald McDonald to Sarah Vishie.

In Cumberland Mills, Oct. 18, Geo. A. Parsons to Nellie E. Loring; Oct. 34, Albert Grafham to Annie Adams, all of Westbrook.

In Carmel, Oct. 17, Dr. R. H. Perkins of Fort Fairfield, to E. G. Rollins.

In Hallowell, Oct. 21, Commander P. Clough of Madison, to Abby D. Chapman.

In Conway, N. H., Oct. 10, Frank E. Frost to Kate M. Jewett, both of Bridgton.

In Charlottown, P. E. I., Oct. 17, D. T. Johnston to Mattie Benson; Oct. 15, James Daley to Emily Eliza Doucett; Oct. 9, Alian Livingstone to Mary McEachern, both of Nine Mile Creek.

In Dexter, Oct. 24, Horace Fuller of Monson, to Mrs. Jane S. Lemont of Lewiston.

In East Wilton, Oct. 22, Albion D. Wilson, Esq., of Thomaston, to Lenette M. Decker.

In Edgecomb, Oct. 9, Wm. H. Ryan to Annie M. Clifford.

In Ellsworth, Oct. 19, Chas. F. Scammon to Katie A. McPhee; Oct. 18, Frank Higgins to Leonora Tourtiotte; Oct. 21, Lawrence Goodwin to Alice Nealey.

In Eastport, Oct. 18, Edward Young of New York, to Gertrude R. Thompson; Oct. 21, John H. Davidson to Eliza Parker, both of Campobello, N. B.

In Ferry Village, Cape Elizabeth, Oct. 20, Augustine F. Littlefield of Portland, to Sadie E. Sawyer to Lewiston.

In Freedom, Oct. 21, Nathan Parkhurst to Lizzie F. McGray, both of Unity.

In Fryeburg, Oct. 20, Edward S. Osgood of Portland, to Etta Hattie Haley.

In Georgetown, P. E. I., Oct. 16, R. R. McDonald to Ellen McPhee of Barrei Point; James Gillan to Eliza Collins both of Peake's Road.

In Hancock, Oct. 20, George M. Moon to Carrie E. Kenf.

In Houlton, Oct. 18, Samuel Dickerson to Kate McGeachey, both of Lower Woodstock, N. B.

In Lisbon, Oct. 24, Fred Tryon of Pownal to Addie M., Jordan.

In Lewiston, Oct. 23, L. H. Purrington to Ella J. Akley.

In Litchfield, Oct. 18, Franklin K. Jack to Alice V. Berry.

In Liberty, Oct. 21, Briggs Turner to Ellen Fowler of Palermo.

At Lot 30, P. E. I., Oct, 6, Peter Brown to Harriet Wilt, both of Lot 56.

In Marion, Oct. 9, Sedgley L. Sprague of Edmunds, to Roberta L. Smith.

In Montague, P. E. I., Sept. 24, Job Creed of Spurgeon, to Sarah Campbell of Cardigan.

In North Vassalboro, Oct. 14, J. H. Emery to Fannie O. White; Oct. 20, Josiah C. Evans to Nancy A. Priest.

In Orient, Oct. 4, Winfield Spinney to Frances D. Hawkes; Oct. 14, Hamilton Duett to Annie A. Anderson, all of Canterbury, N. B.

In Portland, Oct. 25, John Blake White, M. D., of New York, to Margaret Stuyvesant Jackson.

In Palermo, Oct. 7, Geo. E. White of Waterville, to Abbie M. Bailey.

In Palmyra, Oct. 25, W. H. Dunton of Augusta, to Annie K. Pillsbury.

In Rockland, Oct. 24, B. Frank Gould to Annie L. Lermond, both of Union; Oct. 3, Hiram G. Burns to Sarah F. Hasson.

In Skowhegan, Oct. 15, Converse Mayo of Cleveland, Ohio, to May Osborne; Oct. 12, Chas. A. Hill to Flora E. Foss.

In Stockton, Ivory M. George to Evelyne Clark, both of Prospect.

In Saccarappa, Oct. 20, Geo. H. Goud of Topsham, to Jennie Grant of Westbrook.

In Tremont, Oct. 9, A. B. Bartlett of Mt. Desert, to Annie F. Bartlett of Quincy, Mass.; Oct. 20, Henry H. Robbins to Phebe A. Hodgdon.

In Vinalhaven, Oct. 13, Fielding Smith to Jane Norton; Oct. 31, Benj. O. Hall to Mary Anderson.

In Waterville, Oct 20, Chas. A. Blethen of Bangor, to Maggie E. Boyle of Portland.

In Winthrop, Oct. 17, Henry F. Tuttle of Smithfield, to Emma S. Foster.

Died.

In Augusta, Oct. 2, Mrs. Amelia Horton of Portland, aged 67 years; Oct. 28, Ira Kilgore, aged 69 years.

In Auburn, Oct. 23, John A. Berry, aged 47 years; Maria E., wife of Edward G. Alley of Bridgton, aged 22 years.

In Appleton, Oct. 2, Leon, son of George Smith, aged 9 years; Oct. 12, Inez, daughter of John W. Smith.

In Armadale, Lot 42, P. E. I., Sept. 26, Archibald McPhee, aged 73 years.

In Brunswick, Oct. 15, Mary S., daughter of Geo. E. Parsons, aged 10 months.

In Bath, Oct. 20, Stephen, son of James Ferris, aged 5 years; Oct. 21, Alice S., daughter of Mrs. Emily A. Colby, aged 13½ years; Oct. 24, Lucy M., widow of Dr. Amos Nourse, aged 82½ years; Oct. 24, Mrs. Lemuel L. Trott, aged 76 years; Oct. 24, Capt. Reuben Moores aged 65½ years; Oct. 26, Amelia, wife of Jesse M. Snow, aged 39½ years.

In Boothbay, Oct. 16, Capt. Samuel Brewer, aged 87 years.

In Belfast, Oct. 17, Sarah A., widow of Nathaniel Wiggin, aged 61 years.

In Biddeford, Oct. 19, Mrs. Hannah A. Sullivan, aged 31 years.

In Bethel, Oct. 17, Ervin L., child of Lowis T. Bryant, aged 1½ years.

In Bangor, Oct. 20, Isaac B. Peckham, aged 48 years; Oct. 21, Sarah J. Prentiss of Paris, aged 51 years; Oct. 24, Harry Hatfield, son of Capt. John Short, aged 6 years; Llewellyn F. Blake, aged 23½ years.

In Bar Harbor, Oct. 20, Mary Havens, aged 86 years.

In Clinton, Oct. 18, Mrs. Dorcas Adams, aged 83 years.

At Cape Neddock, Oct. 12, Dorcas, wife of Capt. Theodore Weare, aged 77 years.

In Charlottetown, P. E. I., Sept. 7, Margaret M. L., daughter of Thos. Lyncy; Oct. 12, Eliza Trowan, aged 52 years; Oct. 17, Mary Ann, wife of John T. Crockett; Oct. 18, Flora, daughter of Dougald McDonald, aged 14½ years.

In Dixmont, Oct. 21, Hannah A. Folsom.

In Durham, Oct. 19, Mary T. Eveleth, aged 18 years.

In East Bradford, Oct. 14, Annette M., wife of Wellington Ward, aged 27½ years.

In Embden, O

Poetry.

Indian Summer.

BY J. P. IRVINE.

At last the toil-encumbered days are over,
And airs of noon are mellow as the morn;
The blooms are brown upon the seeding clover,
And brown the silks that plume the ripening corn.

All sounds are hushed of reaping and of mowing:
The winds are low; the waters lie uncurled;
Nor thistle-down nor gossamer is flowing,
So lull'd in languid indolence the world.

And vineyards wide and forms along the valley
Are mute amid the vintage and the sheaves,
Save round the barns the noise of route and sally
Among the tenant-masons of the eaves.

Afar the upland glades are flecked in dapples
By flocks of lambs a-gambol from the fold;
And orchards bend beneath their weight of apples;
And groves are bright in scarlet and in gold.

But hark! I hear the pheasant's muffled drumming,
The turtle's murmur from a distant dell,
A drowsy bee in many tangles humming,
The far, faint, tinkling tenor of a bell.

And now, from yonder beech-trunk sheer and sterile
The rat-tat of the yellow-hammer's bill,
The sharp staccato barking of the squirrel,
A dropping nut, and all again is still.

—*Scribner.*

Our Story Teller.

FERGUSON'S AVENGERS.

A Story of Partisan Days.

"*This* for the gallant Ferguson!"

The foregoing five words had instituted a reign of terror in one of the loveliest districts of the Palmetto State—a district watered by the Catawba and Pacolet rivers and their gentle tributaries.

In the month of September, 1780, Cornwallis detached the notorious Col. Ferguson to the frontiers of North Carolina, for the ostensible purpose of encouraging the tories of that region to take up arms for the king. Ferguson's force consisted in part of the most profligate and abandoned characters of the partisan days, and his march was marked by atrocities of the most shocking description. The hardy men of the Carolinas, Kentucky, and Virginia, rose against the marauders, and, led by Boone and other backwoods worthies, gave them a decisive defeat at King's Mountain. Ferguson was slain in the battle, and his fellow foragers, numbering about one thousand, were nearly all captured or killed.

This conflict revived the hopes of the Southern patriots, and forced Cornwallis to return to Charleston discomfitted and cast down.

"We shall have rest now," the patriots said, after the battle. "Ferguson the dreaded, is dead, and the few tories who escaped with their wretched lives are not strong enough to do us harm."

Everywhere in the vicinity of the battlefield the Americans breathed freer, and the loyalists in whose interests Ferguson had marched to his death, curbed their loyalty, and in secresy swore revenge.

But the settlements were soon to learn that the victory of King's Mountain had nerved the arm of a foe more terrible than any which they had hitherto known.

The existence of the new terror was discovered by a boy one morning about a fortnight after the battle. He found the family of Archibald Mettzon murdered in their own house, and to the corpses had been pinned a paper bearing these words:

"This for the gallant Ferguson!"

This terrible atrocity aroused the country, and the excitement was quickly heightened by the finding of the body of another murdered patriot. On the cold breast, which had been pierced by pistol balls, was the pallid paper and its words of terrible import, and the country knew that a fearful vengeance would be taken for King's Mountain.

During the week that followed the discoveries I have mentioned, the work of the Avengers was terrible. They fell upon patriot houses at the dead of night, and left on the bosoms of their victims the five words which had already terrorized the country. It was in vain that the patriots summoned their cunning and energy for the capture of the band of demons, which, as it had been discovered, numbered six men, masked, and mounted on black horses. They came and went like ghosts, but always left behind the terrible sentence which had made their existence execrable. At times they fell upon their hunters, and left them upon the roadside, marked with the sign of vengeance.

Fear began to paralyze the Carolinians; many abandoned their homes for the sake of their families; and it is probable that the entire district would have been depopulated in a short time, had it not been for the courage of one woman.

Her name was Alice Beauchampe.

It was a dark night in the last week of November, when the heroine of my story left the house of a friend. Her own house, which had been deserted for several days, was not far away, and she had determined to return to it for the purpose of securing an article of apparel left behind in her recent flight.

Before she set out on her journey she was warned of the dangers that environed it; but she smiled and declared that she did not fear them. She could enter the house through the kitchen, in the rear, find the garment without a light, and return safely to her friends.

The path she had often traversed was barely discernable; but she made good headway, and reached her home without incident. The silence of the grave hung about the place, and the lifting of the latch sent a chill of terror to the young girl's heart. Through the kitchen, across the deserted parlor, and up the stairs, she crept to the room where she had left the object of her nocturnal quest. The drawer of the old bureau yielded without noise, and Alice was drawing forth the garment when the voice of men fell upon her ears.

She started, dropped her prize, and with her heart in her throat crept to the window that overlooked the porch in front of the house.

She could see nothing, for the night was too dark; but the voices of men mingled with the champing of bits, continued to salute her ears.

"This is old Beauchampe's house," said one. "It has been deserted for several days. The daughter, frightened by the manner in which we treated the father, has fled somewhere for protection."

These words drove every vestige of color from the listener's face; they told her who the men below were, though she could not see even the outlines of their persons. One week prior to her visit, her father, one of King's Mountain heroes, was found dead in a palmetto grove, and the words of Ferguson's Avengers lay on his breast. Then she had deserted her home, knowing that the hand that had struck the father would not spare the daughter.

Well might the lone girl tremble when she found herself so near the dreaded scourges of the country, and she did not move until she heard the front door opened by a kick, and heavily booted feet in the room below.

Then a calm brought of her situation drove fear from her heart, and Alice Beauchampe prepared to perform one of the most daring deeds of the Revolutionary War.

The noise in the house increased, and oaths and rude jests preceded and followed the lighting of a fire on the hearth.

Alice, who had longed for a sight of the dreaded six, crept to a spot near the bureau where was a crack in the floor. There applying her eye to the peek-hole, she saw six wild looking men directly beneath her.

They were, beyond a doubt, the Avengers of Ferguson's death, for several masks lay on the table, along with three or four bottles of wine which they had taken from some patriot's cellar. Tall, rough, devil-may-care-looking fellows they were, armed with pistols, carbines, and sabres, the kind of men who never court the smiles of mercy or listen to the pleading of innocence. Just such fellows as they were, Alice had supposed them to be, for she had seen many of the prisoners taken at King's Mountain, and she longed for the presence of a band of patriots. There were true men in South Carolina at that time who would have given their right arms for a chance to exterminate the Avengers, and Alice knew where a little party of patriots lay, but alas! they were not very near.

"We'll rest here and finish that wine!" said one of the leaders of the band, whose face told that already he had imbibed freely. "Bring in the poultry, and on old Beauchampe's hearth we'll prepare a feast."

At his command, one of the men left the house, but soon returned, bearing with him a duck and several chickens, from whose freshly wrung necks the warm blood was dripping.

"How's the horses?" asked one of the Avengers, as the man flung the poultry on the table.

"Standing like rocks," was the reply. "Such horses as they don't need watching, and, beside, there isn't a rebel within ten miles of this accursed place."

"Why, there's the Widow Hartzell."

"I didn't think of her," was the reply. "How bitterly old Hartzell hated us, but we caught him at last."

"And presented him with a breast-pin! Ha! ha!"

And the laugh went round the room.

Alice Beauchampe did not wait until the laugh was ended; while yet it filled the house with its devilish echoes, she glided across the room to a window that looked out upon the dark palmetto grove, behind the building.

There was no sash in the window, and the cool winds of the night kissed the pallid cheek of the partisan's daughter. For a moment she tried to pierce the darkness beneath the window; but, failing in her endeavors, she crept over the sill, resolved to trust to fortune for success.

The distance to the ground was not very great, and the daring girl alighted without injury.

Now she was free to make her escape to the friends she had lately left; but immediate flight in that direction was not her intention.

"Heaven help me!" she murmured, as she glided around the old house and approached the horses which the tories had left tethered to some small trees a few yards from the door.

A glance into the room revealed the forms of the Avengers discussing the merits of the wine with oath and jest, or watching the roasting of the fowls. They did not fear danger, for their horrible deeds had completely terrorized the country, and under the sway of their lawlessness it was fast becoming a desert.

Alice counted them before she touched a single rein; and then in a brief period of time she loosened the horses and quietly led them into a small copse not far away. The steeds did not refuse to obey her guidanceship, and when she had reached the copse, she struck them with a whip which she had found beneath a saddle. It was a smart blow that she administered, and the horses started forward and disappeared in an instant.

Thus in a few moments Ferguson's Avenger's had been deprived of their horses.

Flushed with triumph, Alice Beauchampe returned to the house, and again looked in upon its hilarious tenants.

She now held a pistol in her hand—a weapon which a holster had granted her, and she crept to the edge of the porch before she halted. There was the flash of vengeance in the dark eyes of the partisan girl while she gazed upon the party beyond the threshold. Once or twice she raised the weapon, but lowered it again, as if playing with the life of the leader of the six, whose burly form was revealed by the light of the fire.

She saw the fowls, smoking and well burned, placed on the table, and watched the greedy men crowd around for their shares. Their tongues and movements told her that stolen liquor was doing its accustomed work on all save the giant, who had superintended the cooking of the late repast. This man appeared perfectly sober, and the angry glances which he often cast at his comrades told that he did not sanction their bacchanalian conduct.

"Come! enough of this!" he suddenly cried, rising from the table, which had been dragged to the centre of the room. "Get up, boys, and let's be going. I told you at Wiley's that you had wine enough, but you must bring some here and drink yourselves stupid. Tom Scot, and you Blakeson, I am ashamed of you! What would we do if a gang of rebels should catch us in this condition? You know the mercy we would get, and yet you sit there as careless as statues—drunk as old Bacchus himself!"

Then an expression of contempt passed over the man's face, and, stooping, he exclaimed:

"Up! up! the rebels are coming!"

But his cry of alarm did not infuse much life into the men at the table. One or two heads were raised, but the drunken leer that made the faces hideous was enough to provoke a smile, even from the mad torv.

"Men!" he sneered, contemptuously! "Dogs! every one of you. I've a mind to ride down to the Pacolet swamp and tell the rebels hiding there that the men they hate are in their power. I have thought that I commanded *men*, not drunkards!" and he struck the table with the butt of his pistol, but could not rouse his stupid followers.

The next moment, with an oath on his lips, he strode to the door, which he jerked open, and stepped upon the porch.

"Curse such dogs as I lead!" he hissed. "I suppose I must lead the horses up, and tie each fool in the saddle.

He was stepping from the porch for the purpose of attending to the horses which he supposed were still tethered to the trees, when a form rose before him and he started back with a gasp of terror.

"Who in the mischief——"

"Alice Beauchampe!" was the interruption of the apparition. "The daughter of the old man basely murdered by your hands! Down upon your miserable knees, Godfrey Lang, and beg for the mercy that you have never granted others! Down, I say!"

Perhaps the shadows of the window sash did not permit him to see the pistol that was clutched in the hand of the fearless girl, else his rashness might have been curbed.

"Kneel to you? Never!" he cried

The weapon which he raised dropped before the flash that followed his last words, and with a groan of pain he staggered back to drop dead among his drunken comrades.

Alice Beauchampe, amazed at her own courage, stood silent amidst the smoke of her own pistol. She saw the bacchantes try to shake off their torpor at sight of their stricken leader, and one rose to his feet to fall as soon as he needed support.

"Now for the swamp!" she cried with triumph, and the next minute rushed from the disgusting sight.

An hour passed away, and the drunken tories began to recover; their chief, who had dropped to the floor, seemed to sober them with his cold face and staring eyes, and when they had almost recovered their scattered wits, the foe they dreaded was upon them.

Alice Beauchampe's voice had fired the hearts of a patriot band for vengeance. On her way to the swamp she had encountered the patriots who had captured one of the flying horses, and were following the trail.

The conflict between patriot and tory was brief and almost bloodless.

The five avengers were made prisoners, and sued like cowards for the mercy they had never granted to a living being.

I need not describe the scene that followed. Suffice it to say that the trees in front of Alice Beauchampe's home bore the strangest fruit that ever hung from living limb.

The vengeance of the patriots was as complete as terrible, and when the glorious sun rose again, the dreaded men of the lovely district had ceased to frighten people with their name.

Alice Beauchampe, whose courage had led to the extermination of the avenging band, became the heroine of the day, and after the termination of hostilities wedded a lieutenant of Marion's men. Her heroism is venerated, and her gallant exploit narrated daily by hundreds of her descendants in the Palmetto State.

One of 'em.

"'Sall on 'count of my wife!" exclaimed James Partner as he walked out. "That woman is bound to be the death of me!"

"I thought it was all on account of beer," replied the Court as he looked down into Mr. Partner's excited eyes.

"Yes, but what made me drink that beer?" asked the prisoner. "If it hadn't been for that Mary Ann of mine would I have rushed out for beer!"

"Don't ask me conundrums, but go ahead with your explanations."

"Well, sir, I've been married to this one for five years. She's what they call the melancholy sort. She sits for hours and looks out of the window, and it isn't more that once a month that she gets up in the morning before ten oclock. I've got two children, and that ere woman will sit down on the corner of the kitchen table and look out into the back yard for a straight half hour, while them young 'uns are bawling loud enough to make a dead dog turn over in his grave. When I get up I have to cook my own breakfast. When I come to dinner it isn't ready. When my day's work is done, there's no supper for me unless I cook it. Last night I went home and found my wife sitting on the back steps, no fire, no supper, children howling and the cat curled up in the tea-kettle. I just went to pieces in a minute. I either knew I'd got to box my wife's ears, lick the children, kill the cat or get drunk, and I got drunk."

"Anything more?" asked the court, as he hesitated.

"Nothing. I don't care two cents whether I go up or go home. If I live with that woman any longer I'm going to hire a boy to pound tin pans, fire off pistols and blow horns around the house and see if I can't rouse her."

"It's a pretty tight squeeze, but you can go this time," said his Honor. "Perhaps your wife will soon turn out a poetess. I've heard that they always mope around that way for three or four months before they strike the mad lyre of rhyme."

"Well, I druther she'd be a mad liar than a mope," sighed Mr. Partner, as he reached for out doors.—*Detroit Free Press.*

☞"Doctor, my daughter seems to be going blind, and she's just getting ready for her wedding, too! Oh, dear me, what is to be done?" "Let her go right on with the wedding, madam, by all means. If anything can open her eyes, marriage will."

An old farmer who was asked by an impertinent attorney if there were any pretty girls in his neighborhood, answered, "Yes, lots of 'em; so many that they can't all get respectable husbands, and lately some of 'em's been taking up with lawyers."

☞Hard to beat: Boiled eggs.

Dutch Conquest of Maine.

BY C. W. TUTTLE, BOSTON.

The following account of the Dutch conquest of Maine was read at the last winter meeting of the Maine Historical Society, and was published with the author's corrections, in the Boston *Post*, from which we copy it:

I need not seek deeper for causes of the occurrences which I am about to relate than the dissolution of the famous Tripple Alliance, made a few years after the restoration of Charles II. by the three great Protestant nations of Europe. England, the United Provinces and Sweden enjoyed a few years' repose under the moral strength of this happy alliance. But the mercurial temper of the English monarch would not permit him to adhere long to any policy. Charles II. and his Ministers, without the concurrence of the English people, made a shameful breach of this alliance by joining the ambitious King of France in a war of conquest against the United Provinces, the old and faithful ally of England. This unjust war was proclaimed in March, 1672, and produced a few memorable changes in the New World before it ended.

At this time the Dutch navy was large and powerful. The Dutch fleets were commanded by able and experienced Admirals. The naval conflicts between Dutch and English are as memorable as any on the records of that age.

England timely warned her American colonies to prepare for Dutch cruisers in their waters. In the Spring of 1673, a year after the war began in Europe, two Dutch squadrons met in the West Indies. They went there to harass the French and English colonies. Without doing anything very memorable the united squadron sailed towards New York about midsummer, taking many English vessels on the way. New York, the ancient capital of the Dutch in the New World, was easily captured, and the entire province soon yielded to Dutch arms. The province was again named New Netherlands, and New York or Manhattan, New Orange, in honor of the Prince of Orange, now the supreme head of the United Provinces. A Dutch Government was immediately established over New Netherlands, and for more than a year administered as vigorously as ever.

The English nation, weary of this needless and cruel war against the United Provinces, compelled the King and his ministers to make peace. The Treaty of Westminster was signed Feb. 9, 1674, nearly two years after the war was declared, and about six months after the conquest of New York till the English were ready to take upon themselves the government. It was October, 1674, before Sir Edmund Andros arrived and the Dutch surrendered to him New York.

About midsummer, 1674, Capt. Jurien Aernouts, commander of the Dutch frigate Flying Horse, being at Curacoa in the West Indies, received a commission from the Dutch Governor of those islands, authorizing him, in the name of the great Prince of Orange, "to take, plunder, spoil and possess any of the garrisons, towns, territories, privileges, ships, persons or estates of any of the enemies of the great States of Holland." His commission especially named England and France as public enemies of his great master. The news of the peace of Westminster, made a few months before had not reached Curacoa when this authority was granted.

Pursuant to this Provincial commission Capt. Aernouts sailed for New York, reaching there in the fore part of July. New York was still held by the Dutch, who were waiting for the English to come and possess it according to the treaty of Westminster. Here Capt. Aernouts found that his commission against the English was at an end, but was still good against the French, no peace having been made with that nation.

While the Flying Horse was recruiting and preparing for sea in New York—or New Orange, as the Dutch loved to call it—Capt. John Roade, an Englishman living in Boston, an adventurous character, made the acquaintance of Capt. Aernouts. He told the captain that he was well acquainted with Acadia and all the French defences therein; that it would be an easy conquest with his force, if taken by surprise; that it was a great fur country and would make a fine Dutch Province. Roade had recently been at Pentagoet, now Castine, and had exact knowledge of the strength of the French garrison there.

Capt. Aernouts resolved to attempt the conquest. Roade was sworn to the allegiance of the Prince of Orange, and made chief pilot of the Flying Horse. With a company of 110 men he sailed from New York and reached Pentagoet the 1st of August. He forthwith attacked the French fort commanded by the veteran M. de Chambly with a small force of thirty men, and was soon master of it. Chambly was wounded. The garrison surrendered to the Prince of Orange. The Dutch captain could not spare any of his force to garrison the fort, and he thereupon destroyed it, taking the cannon, ammunition and other articles away with him. The French inhabitants submitted to be subjects of the Prince of Orange, and were allowed to remain till further orders.

M. de Chambly, who was Governor of Acadia, and his principal officers, were taken on board the Flying Horse. A thousand beavers were demanded as the price of his ransom; but he was unable to furnish them. He was allowed to despatch his Ensign with Indian guides to Quebec to acquaint Count Frontenac of his unhappy situation and to request ransom from his captors.

Before leaving Pentagoet, the Dutch commander placed a copy of his commission, with a brief account of his conquest made in the name of the Prince of Orange, in a bottle and buried it in the earth, as a memorial of his seizure.

The Flying Horse then proceeded eastward, making conquest of every French fort and trading place to the St. John river in the bay of Fundy. The last considerable fort taken was at Gemsee, in this river, commanded M. de Marson, lieutenant to M. de Chambly. This fort was destroyed and its officers made prisoners. The inhabitants submitted to be subjects of the Prince of Orange, and were allowed to remain and keep possession until further orders.

Another bottle was buried in the earth containing a copy of the captain's commission and a brief account of the Dutch conquest made in the name of the Prince of Orange. Acadia was now proclaimed to bear the name of New Holland, another European name hitherto unknown in the annals of Maine. No attempt was made on Port Royal, probably on account of its capacity to defend itself.

Thus was Acadia, lying between the Penobscot and St. John rivers, wrested from the French after having been held by them only four years. In 1670 the English surrendered it to France in pursuance of the Treaty of Breda, made in 1667. The French had only got well established there when this calamity befel them. It yielded a large revenue from the fur trade and was always a favorite province with the French.

Count Frontenac, Governor of New France, received the news of the capture of M. de Chambly and of the conquest of Acadia with mingled feelings of surprise and mortification. Both had been but a short time in these high stations. The former was appointed in 1672. Frontenac hastened to provide a ransom for the Governor of Acadia out of his own private fortune. The equivalent of the thousand beavers was negotiated at Boston, and Chambly was released.

The Flying Horse, gorged with the plunder of Acadia and having its Governor and his chief officers on board, sailed for Boston, reaching that place sometime in September. Capt. Aernouts applied for leave to come up to town to repair his ship, and dispose of his plunder. He showed Gov. Leverett his commission, which authorized him to make conquest of French territory, and to make prize of French goods. Gov. Leverett had already some weeks before been made acquainted with his conquest of Acadia. He suffered him to bring the Flying Horse into the inner harbor. The colony gladly purchased the cannon taken from the ruined forts of Acadia for the castle in the harbor, which had been destroyed by fire a few months before. The inhabitants or traders of Boston purchased the rest of the plunder.

No sooner had Capt. Aernouts reached Boston than the Boston fur traders applied to him for leave to trade in Acadia, now New Holland. This was refused. The subordinate Dutch officers and men claimed that the conquest had been made with the sword, and that the trade, which was valuable, belonged to them. The Boston traders, however, hurried away their vessels to Acadia, without leave or license and without paying therefor. The French had always exacted customs for this liberty.

When Capt. Aernouts was ready to sail, about the 1st of November, he went to take leave of Gov. Leverett. The Governor boldly asked him if he had left any of his men to keep possession of Acadia or New Holland. The captain replied that he had not. The Governor then asked him if he had given a copy of his commission to any one, and he said he had not, nor would he, for he would not be responsible for the actions of others. This is Leverett's version of this conversation.

While Massachusetts did not raise forces and join in fighting the Dutch in this war she, nevertheless, had no kind feeling towards them. When news of this war reached Boston, in May, 1672, it was publicly proclaimed, the only instance, it is said, of the kind during the whole colonial period. While the Dutch were Protestants and therefore agreed with the Massachusetts colonists in religion, they were more than a match for them in trade. Dull traders and the Roman Catholic religion could better be endured by the Puritans of Massachusetts.

The Flying Horse sailed from Boston, and I have no further account of her or her commander. She left in Boston two of her men, afterwards styled Dutch officers—Peter Rodrigo and Cornelis Anderson, both destined to have a notable career during the next twelve months. Capt. John Roade, the pilot, and John Williams, a Cornishman, were also left behind.

The Dutch had just surrendered New York into the hands of Sir Edmund Andros, and there was no Dutch foothold this side of the West Indies except the conquered territory of Acadia or New Holland.

The two Dutch officers and Roade resolved to proceed to New Holland and keep possession and carry on trade with the Indians till a Dutch force and government should be sent there. They purchased one vessel and hired another, and armed them as well as they could. They persuaded four or five Englishmen to join them in this enterprise. They suspected the design of these men, and sent for Roade and demanded what he intended. Roade told him he was going eastward to trade where others were going.

By the first of December the flag of the Prince of Orange waved from the topmast of two vessels making their way into the Penobscot bay. They visited Pentagoet, where they had the first struggle with the French four months previous. They found the French inhabitants still quietly submitting to the authority of the Prince of Orange. The English of Pemaquid had been there during the absence of the Dutch, and treated the inhabitants with some insolence, and carried away the iron and other articles found in the ruins of the fort. Proceeding further eastward, they soon met some of the Boston vessels which had been trading in Acadia. They recognized some of the persons who had been refused in Boston leave to come here. They seized these vessels and took from them the peltry and other articles which had come from Acadia. They then dismissed them and bade them begone out of the jurisdiction of the Prince of Orange, for the trade there belonged to the Dutch.

At Machias they set up an establishment, but it had not been there long when a Boston vessel put in there, and, being the strongest, overcame the Dutch and destroyed their abode. Proceeding onward toward the St. John river, they were met with the information that the French had revolted and returned to their former allegiance; that a Boston vessel had transported a French force from Port Royal to Gemsee.

Meantime news was carried to Boston of the seizure of Boston vessels by persons under Dutch colors, and was attracting public attention in the New England metropolis. The bark Philip—an ominous name—seized by them, belonged to John Freake and Samuel Shrimpton, merchants of Boston. Freake complained to Gov. Leverett that his vessel had been piratically seized by John Roade and his associates, and asked that a force might be sent to seize them and to bring them to Boston. He asked that Capt. Samuel Mosley, a person destined to achieve great eminence in Indian warfare in a few months, might be put in command of the force to be sent out. The Governor and assistants, after considering this application, and seeing the advantage it would be to have Acadia open to Boston trade, and not favoring the Dutch for neighbors, ordered Capt. Mosley to proceed there with sufficient force, and to "seize and surprise and bring them forthwith to Boston." All ships in Boston harbor, bound eastward were ordered to stay till Capt. Mosley had sailed. This was the middle of February, 1675. The master of Freake's vessel, the Philip, was George Munning. He was wounded at the time he was captured by the Dutch. After being taken he attempted to get away and offered some violence to his captors. They proposed to set him adrift in a boat and to keep his vessel. At length he offered to join them and to let them have his vessel at eight pounds per month. They agreed and hired his men. Dutch colors were immediately hung on the Philip, the Puritan trader.

This state of things had not lasted long when Capt. Mosley from Boston appeared on the scene. Munning forthwith revolted and betrayed both Dutch vessels into the hands of Mosley. The capture was an easy one. Mosley sailed for Boston, where he arrived the second day of April, bringing in both Dutch vessels and all that were on board when they were taken in the waters of Acadia. The Dutch vessels were appraised and delivered to John Freake, who was to be responsible for them to the amount of their appraisal.

The two Dutch officers and six English associates, including Roade, were committed to prison. In a few weeks formal charges of piracy were made out against them all. A special Court of Admiralty, as the record calls it, met in Boston, consisting of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and ten assistants, being the chief civil officers of the colony. Although a Court of Admiralty a jury was in attendance with Anthony Checkley, a noted man in the colony, as foreman. While the prisoners were waiting for trial a dreadful calamity happened in Boston and saddened the whole community. On the fourth day of May, two weeks before the Court of Admiralty assembled, an English vessel from Virginia arrived in the harbor. While John Freake, the merchant who had set on foot the expedition against the Dutch in Acadia, and Capt. Scarlett, a distinguished ship-master and merchant, one of the appraisers of the Dutch vessels, were in the great cabin of this English vessel, she was suddenly blown up. Freake was taken up dead, and the supercargo survived only a few hours. Capt Scarlett, died next day. Nine others were wounded. The great Increase Mather preached a sermon, which is printed, "Occasioned by this awful Providence."

The Court first condemned both Dutch vessels, and ordered the proceeds to be distributed, paying Freake's loss, and the cost of the expedition. The prisoners all denied piracy, and justified their action under the authority of Peter Rodrigo, one of the Dutch officers. Rodrigo justified under the authority of Capt. Aernouts who had made conquest of Acadia for the Prince of Orange and given authority to gather a force and keep possession of it till further orders.

Their defence was in writing, and it is a production worthy of Grotius himself. No better nor abler argument was ever made before any tribunal. It was prepared by some one whose vernacular is not English. But it did not avail them before the jury, and they were all found guilty of piracy and sentenced to die, except Cornelius Anderson and two of his English associates. The Court was unwilling that Anderson should go free, and he sent the jury out again "to find what they could against him," and the jury found him guilty of robbery.

This Cornelius Anderson is, without doubt, the mysterious Dutchman mentioned by all our old historians and writers of that period, who figured in King Philip's war under Capt. Mosley. Some of his exploits were heroic. Who he was or whence he came has not been known till now. It is probable these men are the "Buccaneers" referred to by historians as going with Capt. Mosley against Philip near the end of June, withstanding war existed between France and the United Provinces when Capt. Aernouts made conquest of Acadia, Frontenac characterized the act as a buccaneering one, and declared that it was encouraged by Boston. The French historians have persistently asserted that the Flying Horse sailed to Acadia from Boston. This was a hasty inference, from the facts that the pilot was of Boston; that the Flying Horse disposed of her plunder there, and that Boston traders rushed into Acadia and took up the rich trade with the Indians.

Frontenac wrote to Gov. Leverett expressing his astonishment and complaining bitterly that the English should allow the Dutch cruiser to come there, bringing the French officers as prisoners of war, and to dispose of the plunder gathered in Acadia, while there was peace between France and England. What answer Leverett made to this letter does not appear.

But this affair did not end in Boston with the trial and condemnation of the Dutch officers and their associates, in the early summer of 1675. When news of the capture of these persons by Capt. Mosley and of their being imprisoned in Boston, reached the States General, more than six months after the event, they immediately instructed their ambassador in London to demand satisfaction of the English Government and a release of their subjects, held as prisoners in Boston. This application was made to the English Government in January, 1776, about a month after the last of the Dutch prisoners had been freed in Boston. This application was considered by the King in council, and the king wrote to Gov. Leverett, requiring him to make answer to the Dutch demand. His Majesty's letter was not received in Boston till September, 1676. Gov. Leverett, with an air of assurance and innocence, replied to the king's letter, trusting that a "bare narrative of that transaction without any plea or defence thereupon is sufficient for our excuse and satisfaction to His Majesty." This letter was sent to England by two agents of the Massachusetts colony. It is probable that here ended the diplomatic correspondence concerning this affair. The Dutch could not hope for any nice justice from the English. Had Massachusetts executed the Dutch officers and their associates, the results would not probably have been different.

This event, which covered the whole period of King Philip's war, and involved the interests of three great nations, has received but little attention from our historians, and that little is largely inaccurate. It is barely mentioned by Hutchinson. Williamson adds hardly anything to Hutchinson. Dr. Palfrey and Bancroft do not mention it. Hutchinson blundered in making two Dutch captures, one in 1674 and another in 1676. Halliburton has called it one of Capt. Kidd's adventures!

About twenty years ago the commission to Roade and Steenwyck came into the possession of the New York Historical Society. Gen. De Peyster of New York, an able writer, then read a paper on the "Dutch at the North Pole and in Maine" before that Society. He brought together from the historians referred to all they had bearing on this Dutch conquest, and treated the subject in an intelligent and interesting manner.

My information has been mainly derived from the original manuscript documents relating to this affair accidentally found by myself some years since in the colony archives of Massachusetts Bay. I have given you a mere outline of this great affair. When I received from foreign archives the rest of the official correspondence, I intend to give this story historical shape and permanence.

Maria Gaetana Agnesi.

The life of Maria Gaetana Agnesi reads like a strange romance of head and heart. She was born at Milan in 1718, of parents noble and rich, and at thirty years was admitted by acclamation to the Bologna Institute. As a child, she displayed such unusual endowment by nature, that her father decided to give her a first-class education. Physically, she was exceedingly beautiful, and her manners were most winning. At five years of age she delighted everybody with the facility with which she spoke French. She studied the classics in company with her brothers, and when nine years old delivered a discourse in Latin in her father's garden to a company of *savants* he had invited to hear her. The theme of the young orator's talk was, "Forbidding the Study of Science to Women." At eleven she was talking and writing Greek like her own tongue; and in a year or two later she had mastered Hebrew, Spanish, and German. She had a prodigious memory, and mastered idioms with surprising facility. She compiled a lexicon of choice Latin and Greek words for herself to the number of thirteen thousand three hundred. When nineteen year of age, her father led her to devote herself to the study of eloquence, and to elevated and difficult works of philosophy. A convocation of learned friends decided to give her free range in the field of mathematics and philosophy. Two *savants*, Manara and Casati, were charged to teach her the elements of Euclid, logic, metaphysics, and general and special and experimental physics. She made such astonishing progress that her professors requested that her examinations be made public, and the *savants* of Italy and France came to Milan to attend them. They were at liberty to "question, confuse, and confound her." But her replies, made in Latin, were of such eloquence and erudition as to bring her victoriously through the ordeal. During her examinations, she had delivered, in the presence of the principal ministers, senators, and *savants* of Milan, one hundred and ninety-one theses—all of which, published in book-form, still exist. In mathematics she was so skillful that learned men all over the continent of Europe consulted her in regard to the solution of problems. When twenty, she resolved to retire from the world and lead a secluded life—a decision that deeply grieved her father. The matter was compromised by her father acceding to her wish to dress simply and renounce balls and theatres. She then began to prosecute seriously her study of algebra and geometry. She wrote a commentary upon conic sections, and later, began her great work upon "Analytical Institutions," which, when completed, excited universal applause and admiration. It was published in two volumes, with fifty-nine illustrations, in which she had combined, resolved, and arranged methodically, all the greatest problems of Huyghens, Fermat, Roberval, Varigon, Newton, Leibnitz, etc.

Had the laws of the French Academy been as liberal toward merit, regardless of sex, as those of the Bologna Institute, Agnesi would have been elected a member of it. In 1775, Bossut, a French mathematician, translated her "Differential and Integral Calculus" for the use of French students. It was a curious spectacle to see her consulted by the most celebrated men of her time, as her father's house was a social centre for all *savants*.

Plunged in such profound speculations, Agnesi often found in her dreams the solution of the most difficult problems. At length she turned from her studies to devote herself to works of charity, and opened her father's house to sick and infirm women, doing offices for them which no servant would. Her father interfered with this devotion, in behalf of her health; but after his death she resumed it, resorting to all sorts of economy to obtain money, food and clothing, for the miserable. She sold her jewels, and prevailed upon her sister, Maria Teresa, who was a fine musician, to give concerts in their behalf. She undertook the instruction of idiots, and succeeded so well as to give them the appearance, at least, of possessing a soul. People never ceased coming to visit her, and always betrayed astonishment at seeing her so humbly clad. A son of the King of Sweden begged her to write in his album, and she wrote the Greek proverb, "It is better to believe much than little." In 1783 she went as director in a hospital, believing herself divinely called. With her tranquil face she moved about like a saint, comforting one, solacing another, soothing a third. Sometimes she would dine with her friends, when her conversation charmed all. She lived in that way fifteen years, until her death in 1799.—*Appletons' Journal.*

☞Chief Justice Mansfield, a noted lawyer, probably with a view to prolong his own days, was always anxious, when old witnesses were in court, to know their customary habits of life. It so happened that two very old men by the name of Elm were one day the object of his inquiry. Said his lordship to the elder brother, "You are a very old man; I suppose you have lived a very temperate life?" "Never drank anything but water, my lord," said. "Nor you neither, I suppose?" pursued the judge, addressing himself to the younger brother. "When I could get anything else, my lord," was the reply. "I always took my social glass with my friends." "Well then," observed his lordship, "all that we can say is —an elm will flourish wet or dry."

☞A man was taking aim at a hawk that was perched in a tree near his chicken coop, when his daughter exclaimed, "Don't take aim, pa; let it go off by accident." "Why so?" asked the father. "'Cause every gun that goes off by accident always kills somebody," exclaimed the child.

☞A negro insisted that his race was mentioned in the Bible. He said he heard the preacher read about how "Nigger Demus wanted to be born again."

Young Folks' Column.

Summer's Going.

Leaves are shrinking on the trees,
Where the nests are hidden;
There's a hush among the bees,
As to roam forbidden;
There's the silk of corn that shows
Faded tangles blowing;
So that everbody knows,
Darling, summer's going.

There's the mist that haunts the night
Into morning sailing,
Leaving flimy webs of light
On the grasses trailing;
There's the fierce red sun that glows,
Through the vapor showing;
So that everybody knows,
Darling, summer's going.

There are insects' wings that gleam;
Locusts shrilly calling;
There are silences that seem
Into sadness falling;
There is not another rose
But the sweet-brier blowing;
So that everybody knows,
Darling, summer's going.

Breathe but softest little sigh,
Child, for vanished roses,
For each reason, going by,
Somethiog sweet discloses;
And if in your heart has grown
Truth to fairer blowing,
Summer then will be your own,
Spite of summer's going.

—*Wide Awake.*

An American Circus in Brittany.

To-day the Bretons are very much what they were a century ago,—yes, more than that,—perhaps two or three centuries ago. They are superstitious, bigoted and picturesque. They come to the markets clad in skins in winter and in sackcloth in summer. They cultivate the soil in the rudest manner with wooden plows, and are content in all the ways of life to live as their fathers lived.

We often hear of the son standing in the shoes of his father, and this may be said literally of the Bretons. It often happens that a pair of leather shoes is handed down from father to son. These shoes last a long time, for they are only used on rare occasions, rude wooden shoes, or *sabots*, being commonly worn. Not one in ten of the grown people can read and write, and newspapers are a luxury enjoyed only by the rich. The people are simple minded and credulous, but in money matters, they are not too simple to make exceedingly shrewd bargains.

Now, in a country like this, in a town like this quaint, old-fogyish Quimperle, just fancy an American circus making its appearance. There, in the public square, a tremendous yellow-and-red poster has been displayed for a week past, and crowds of admiring peasants, more picturesque than tidy, have stood before it in admiring wonder from morniag till night. Its long trains of mottled horses, its hump-backed camels and bulky elephants, have been commented upon till their minutest points are known to every peasant within ten miles. A commotion was created one day by a cynical old one-eyed beggar declaring that the proprietors of the circus were emissaries of the Prussian government, and from that suspicion it came to be pretty generally understood that the man who drove the triumphal car in the painted cavalcade was Prince Bismark, although the bill announced, in plain English, that it was the Anglo-American circus that was coming. The people didn't quite take in the word Anglo; but American was plain to such of them as could read French, on account of its similarity to the same word in that language.

As the writer was known to be an American, he was called on many times to give explanations of the figures on the bill; and any ignorance regarding them would have thrown doubt at once on his nationality. Was that like an American elephant? Does the President of the United States ride in a coach like that?—pointing to the musicians' car. How many ostriches could a good sportsman shoot in a day in America? Do all the people in America wear feathers like that red Indian on the bill?

All these questions and many more, were continually put and faithfully answered.

At last the circus came. Bright and early on that wonderful morning all Quimperle was up and dressed in its best clothes to see the grand entry of the circus. Tramp, tramp, tramp into the town, from all quarters, the people came. All the *sabots* clattered in one direction toward the great square, where busy hands were putting up the tent. Every town in Brittany has its distinctive *coif*, or women's head-dress, and every variety was represented. The men came with their huge pockets stuffed with great buckwheat cakes, and women brought loaves as large as the top of a pail, by way of slight refreshment at midday. Every man and woman who had children brought them all, from the carefully wrapped-up infant to the gawky boys and girls who are always tumbling over their own or somebody else's *sabots*.

And the beggars! It was "corn in Egypt" for them. They came like bees round a cask. There were blind beggars—at least they said they were blind. There were lame beggars, and sick beggars, and palsied beggars,—in fact, every kind of beggars but clean beggars. They beset one at the doors. They peered into windows, followed carriages, and stuck to every stranger until he was forced to empty his pocket of coppers for rid of them.

And the boys! Some of them had saved their sous till the necessary francs had been reached, and they were happy. Some of them hadn't